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Removal of Tactical Nuclear Arms From Ukraine

According to Lieutenant General Sergey Zelentsov, deputy head of the CIS Armed Forces' General Department, the "last lot" of tactical nuclear weapons left Ukraine for Russia on the night of 5 May, INTERFAX reports. The elimination of the weapons will get "under way in four weeks' time" at Russian enterprises and will "last till the year 2000," but Zelentsov refused to say exactly where they would be dismantled so as to "keep these weapons away from terrorists." The press attache of the Ukrainian mission in Russia, in remarks broadcast by Russian television, "refused to confirm" Zelentsov's report and instead reaffirmed the weapons removal from Ukraine "will be completed according to schedule."

Crimean Parliament Declares Independence

Radio Rossii reports that on 5 May the Crimean Supreme Soviet "adopted an act on proclaiming state independence of the Republic of the Crimea." "A total 118 out of 167 deputies voted in its favor." When discussing the law on the division of power between Ukraine and Crimea it was found that "the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet was significantly cutting the prerogatives of the Crimean authorities...and tried to foist on the republic the status of an autonomy which it had already rejected." Moscow Radio adds that a referendum "is planned for 2 August at which the act on state independence can be confirmed." Prior to the meeting of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, Moscow TV reports that Ukraine President Kravchuk stated "if the referendum takes place, the Crimean parliament will be disbanded and presidential rule will be introduced in the peninsula." Moscow television reports that at the opening of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, President Leonid Kravchuk denounced the Crimean declaration of independence as "a violation of the Ukrainian constitution" and that it "has no legal force in the eyes of Ukraine."

State of Emergency Declared in Tajikistan

Dushanbe Radio broadcasts a decree declaring "a state of emergency" issued by Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev for "the city of Dushanbe as of 5 May and a curfew from 2100 until 0500." In a response to statements made by the opposition group which has seized the television center, the government stated, "We ask all of you not to believe nonsense." The government "is firmly in its position and is functioning actively," according to the announcement carried by Dushanbe Radio. According to ITAR-TASS an appeal issued by the opposition states that they were "forced to take these measures by the leadership of the republic, including President Rakhman Nabiyev, who was unable to control the political situation." INTERFAX reports that the commander of the National Guard, Major-General Bakhrom Rakhmonov, joined "the opposition and surrendered the presidential palace without battle to avoid senseless bloodshed," then asked "the president's supporters to lay down arms and not to fight."

Russia To Fulfill Rocket Accord With India

According to an ITAR-TASS report, at a news conference in New Delhi, Gennadiy Burbulis stated that "Russia's position remains adamant" concerning the issue of transferring cryogenic rocket-engine technology to India. He said that Russia intends to fulfill its "obligations under this contract," despite U.S pressure. An IZVESTIYA report says the Bush administration has "threatened Russia and India with trade sanctions," if Moscow supplies India with rocket engines. If Moscow disregards the U.S. warning, according to the report, it runs the risk of losing "around $4 billion in aid which has already been pledged."

Ingushetiya Sets Up Emergency Committee

"The wave of rallies and armed clashes between warring political groups" forced Ingushetiya's central administrative division, the Nazranovskiy district, to "impose a special legal regime of activity," according to ITAR-TASS. An "emergency committee," formed "temporarily" until there is "no longer any need for its existence," has been set up to "govern the district" and its resolutions are "mandatory" for "all governing bodies, managers and individuals."

Ukraine Removes 'Last Lot' of Tactical Weapons

OW0605103392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1006 GMT 6 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On the night of May 5, the last lot of nuclear tactical weapons was removed from Ukraine to Russia. The removal was completed 25 days ahead of schedule, Deputy-Head of the CIS Armed Forces' General Department, Lieutenant-General Sergey Zelentsov announced at a press conference on Wednesday [6 May].

He said that last year such weapons had been removed from Byelarus and Kazakhstan. The elimination of tactical nuclear weapons will get under way in four weeks' time, at enterprises of the Russian Ministry of Atomic Power Engineering, and will last till the year 2000. Sergey Zelentsov refused to say where exactly the nuclear weapons brought to Russia from former Union republics are stored, noting that his refusal to do so was motivated by the need to keep these weapons away from terrorists.

Sergey Zelentsov also confirmed that there was no nuclear tactical weapons in the Trans-Caucasia region. They were removed from Trans-Caucasia last year, he said.

Meanwhile, Vadim Dolganov, the press-attache of the Ukrainian mission in the Russian Federation, refused to confirm Sergey Zelentsov's statement to the effect that the withdrawal of nuclear tactical weapons from Ukraine had been completed and referred to his conversation with a representative of the Ukrainian defence ministry. The Ukrainian defence ministry believes, he said, that the withdrawal of the nuclear tactical weapons from Ukraine will be completed according to schedule. He confirmed at the same time that Ukraine will opt for a nuclear-free status. "Ukraine does not intend to have nuclear weapons and would like to make sure that nuclear weapons are not launched from its territory," he said. He also announced that not long ago Ukrainian president Leonid Kravchuk spoke about the possibility of developing devices blocking the guiding system of missiles which may be launched from Ukrainian territory.

Official 'Cannot Confirm' Report

LD0605105692 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 6 May 92

[Report by correspondent D. Chukseyev from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces announced today that Russia is now the only Commonwealth state to possess tactical nuclear weapons. These weapons were withdrawn somewhat earlier from the territory of Byelarus; they were withdrawn from the territory of Ukraine yesterday.

Something of a damper was put on the sensational news by a spokesman of the Ukrainian Embassy in Moscow.

[Begin unidentified Ukrainian press attache recording] Unfortunately, I cannot confirm this report. I talked yesterday with the leadership of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense, and from their point of view, I will refrain from saying today that the last tactical nuclear warhead has left the territory of Ukraine. [end recording]

We shall probably find out quite soon about the actual situation. However, the sides were unanimous on one thing: Nothing is hindering the withdrawal of tactical nuclear weapons from the territory of Ukraine; and both sides are striving to ensure that there should be no increase in the number of nuclear states. All the tactical weapons withdrawn from the territory of Ukraine will be destroyed by the year 2000 at enterprises of the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy. The remaining plutonium will be used for peaceful purposes. Ukraine will become fully nuclear-free by the end of 1994, when the strategic nuclear weapons of the former USSR will be withdrawn from its territory.

Kobaladze Denies U.S. Told of Sold Warheads

PM0605101592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 2 May 92

[Video report by I. Grigoryev and A. Musikyan; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Grigoryev over video of missile silo] Another report about nuclear materials being smuggled abroad from CIS countries has been added to those which have appeared in the Western news media of late.

The British newspaper THE EUROPEAN carries an article which claims that the Russian intelligence service has sent the U.S. CIA a top secret report which reveals that two nuclear warheads were smuggled to Iran from the Semipalatinsk test site. Their yield is somewhere between two and five kilotonnes. So far it has proved impossible to establish the location of the other nuclear bomb. It is said to be somewhere in the Near East.

The Russian Foreign Intelligence Service has rebutted this report.

[Yu. Kobaladze, head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Public Relations Bureau] I am authorized to state that no such top secret or secret report exists. Therefore the Russian Intelligence Service could not have passed it on to the CIA.

Naturally we have read the article, and we see it as far-reaching attempt to influence opinion, an attempt inspired by Western intelligence. Its aim, or rather one of its aims is to undermine the good relations which are taking shape between the intelligence services of the Russian Federation and other CIS countries.

I would like to ask my colleagues at the CIA to rebut the report published in THE EUROPEAN.

[Grigoryev] The aforementioned article also claims that Kazakh President Nazarbayev is behind all these alleged secret deals.

[Kobaladze] Yes, we see this inflammatory article as an attempt to cast aspersions on the president of Kazakhstan, especially now that he is about to pay an official visit to the United States in the course of which he will, unquestionably, also be discussing the nuclear weapons stationed on Kazakhstan's territory.

We at the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service are closely following up all reports concerning the problem of the proliferation or nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and I can tell you that all the reports of this kind have proved false when investigated.

[Grigoryev] So the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service assures us that our fears about the proliferation of nuclear components and technologies are unfounded. But while conditions prevail whereby as a result of political instability this is possible, even advantageous, given the current economic situation, it is too early to relax. [video shows missile and research installations, street scenes, Semipalatinsk test site, Kobaladze interview, SS-20 and other missiles]

Pollution Measured After Arctic Bomb Tests

PM0505084192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 1 May 92

[Video report by L. Obukhova and V. Galnykin; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [video shows bay and beached vessel] [Obukhova] This is the first time that our program has carried a report on the results of the ecological expedition to Novaya Zemlya, Franz Josef Land, and the Kola Peninsula. The international ecological expedition included ecologists from the United States, Germany, Poland, Norway, and Russia.

Man-made pollution in the Arctic amounts to 600-900 becquerels; there are samples of strontium and cesium in the soil and seabed deposits. After analyzing their findings, today's ecologists have concluded that the results of the nuclear explosions on Novaya Zemlya have had an impact on living organisms in the Arctic within a 2,000-km radius.

Apart from Novaya Zemlya, radioactive impurities have been left by nuclear submarines, and all living organisms have reacted to the environmental situation that has developed in the North. Nuclear tests were carried out depending on the weather: Scientists would wait a month or two for southerly winds, then there would be an explosion, and the radioactive cloud would be carried northward. This is why the ecologists recorded huge levels of radioactive contamination in Franz Josef Land and on the Kola Peninsula. [passage omitted] [video shows views of Arctic scenery]

'Realistic' Moves for Reducing Arsenals Viewed

LD0605093792 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 15, Apr 92 (Signed to Press 7 Apr 92) p 37

["Dissenting Opinion" article by Candidate of Technical Sciences Gennadiy Novikov, chief of the RSFSR Ministry of Atomic Energy Sectoral Special Safety Laboratory: "We Say Zero, But What Are We Thinking?"]

[Text] A world without nuclear weapons, and ideally without weapons altogether, is one of the fascinating ideas about a bright future for mankind that prove to be utopian when you try to implement them.

Implements and means of labor that can be used as weapons at a moment's notice will always exist in the world—a stick of dynamite needed to crush rock, hail guns, or engineer Garin's modern hyperboloid.

Be that as it may, time after time Soviet and then Russian leaders have announced considerable reductions in nuclear arsenals. However, it may prove not a lot easier to reduce them than it was to build them up.

Judging by newspaper articles, the nuclear arsenal inherited from the USSR contains 30,000 nuclear munitions. The figure 35,000 has been bandied about of late. Mikhail Gorbachev proposed reducing this whole arsenal to 5,000 warheads. Boris Yeltsin went even further by announcing a severalfold reduction in strategic offensive arms—down to 2,000-2,500 weapons. Is this realistic?

First of all let us try to assess the existing production capacities for dismantlement. There are no official figures, but it is not difficult to make the calculation. If the arsenal consists of 30,000 nuclear munitions with a lifetime of 10-15 years, each year you have to dismantle 2,000-3,000 munitions in order to renew the arsenal and to produce the same number of new ones, of course. So that is the sector's potential.

Thus if we dismantle 5,000 nuclear munitions a year, it will take at least six years to dismantle 30,000. Moreover, we will run up against new difficulties in dismantling weapons on a massive scale. For instance, if 2,500 nuclear munitions are dismantled each year and the same number are produced, clearly some of the components and materials of the dismantled warheads are destroyed, and some are reprocessed and used to produce new warheads (primarily the fissionable material—uranium and plutonium).

If the number of dismantled munitions doubles and the number of new munitions produced decreases almost to zero, then the number of components to be destroyed doubles. That is, the recycling of fissionable materials is interrupted. The problem of utilizing [utilizatsiya] them, particularly the radiobiologically dangerous plutonium, arises. This may require the creation of an entire subsector to destroy and utilize these materials.

There is also another problem—transporting the nuclear weapons for dismantlement. The task is to transport 5,000 munitions each year from military bases to industrial enterprises. Given an average load (50 nuclear munitions per train), 100 trains a year will be required. Each train will be en route for between three and five days. The result is that each day throughout the year there will be several trains carrying nuclear munitions on the railroads. Given our accident rate, that is certainly not a delightful prospect.

The hasty evacuation of nuclear weapons from bases in the CIS independent states and their concentration at Russia's existing bases also increase the risk. Russia's old "powder kegs" will be overfilled and at the same time there will be an increase in the capacity of these potential environmental landmines. I might add that the Russian bases already need reconstruction.

In this situation collaboration with foreign specialists, especially Americans, which we are now morally prepared for, will help to prevent hasty political decisions. Russia could follow the U.S. example and proclaim it a **national task** to enhance the safety of destroyed and remaining nuclear weapons. And it could ensure the fulfillment of this national task by means of appropriate state, legal, financial, and organizational and technical measures and by elaborating and adopting safety criteria that are the same for all nuclear countries. It could also coordinate and finalize a number of technologies and procedures meeting safety criteria and indicators. In particular, technologies for storage and transportation and for utilization; the production of new types of nuclear weapons and modernization of old ones; national and world systems for detecting and reacting to accidents.

One final point. One of the most important directions in conversion in the next 10-15 years will certainly be work to reduce nuclear arsenals and ensure their safety. So maybe our nuclear specialists should be engaged in this work instead of inventing some new sphere of activity for them?

Reaction To Possible Paldiski Resumption Viewed

PM0505084992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 1 May 92

[Video report by unidentified correspondent; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [video shows submarine] [Correspondent] Russian Government representatives want the nuclear reactors at the former Soviet maritime port of Paldiski in Estonia to resume work. This base is the only center for training nuclear submarine crews and, according to Russian officials, the use of simulator reactors at Paldiski makes it possible to avoid accidents on ships. DAGENS NYHETER reports that all these reports have caused bewilderment and alarm among specialists in Sweden and Estonia who thought that the reactors in Paldiski had been shut down forever.

Military

Armed Forces Being Financed Mainly by Russia

PM0605082192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 May 92 pp 1-2

[Interview with Colonel General V. Samsonov, chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces General Staff, by unnamed correspondent; date and place not given: "Plenty of Agreements, But They Are Working Poorly So Far. CIS Joint Armed Forces Chief of General Staff Answers Our Correspondent's Topical Questions"]

[Text] KRASNAYA ZVEZDA published an interview on 18 March with Colonel General V. Samsonov, chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces General Staff. Judging by the letters reaching the editorial office, it generated a great deal of interest among readers—many of whom have proposed making such meetings a regular feature of the newspaper and having the chief of the General Staff give regular assessments of current events, talk about the problems being resolved in the Joint Armed Forces, and answer the questions posed by readers' letters. We put this request to Viktor Nikolayevich and, having obtained his consent, asked several currently topical questions.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] It is well known that the State Commission for the Creation of a Russian Federation Defense Ministry, Army, and Navy has announced that the Russian Armed Forces' administrative structures will be set up on the basis of the former USSR Defense Ministry and the USSR Armed Forces General Staff. How is the General Staff participating in this work, have mutual understanding and coordination been achieved with the State Commission on everything, and what problems and difficulties can be identified in this area?

[Samsonov] The main work is, of course, being implemented by the State Commission. At its request, representatives of the General Staff are being involved in drawing up materials for reference, background information, and analysis purposes, as well as in holding various kinds of consultations and operational calculations.

The main difficulty is caused by the tough time limits.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] A month ago you stated that the forward-based strategic echelon in the former USSR's defense system had been completely destroyed. How can such significant damage be offset during the creation of the Russian Army? Is some kind of work under way to restore the strategic echelonment of the Armed Forces under the new conditions?

[Samsonov] In the West the basis of the USSR Armed Forces' forward-based strategic echelon was provided by troops (forces) under the Western, Northern, Central, and Southern Groups of Forces. With the troop withdrawal from the East European countries a situation has come about whereby the forward-based echelon has to all intents and purposes started disappearing. And, naturally, that would have meant considerable damage for a unified state such as the Soviet Union. But today we can no longer assess the situation from these positions. The CIS has been set up and the geopolitical situation has completely changed. We no longer treat the West as our enemy. So there is no need to restore the forward-based strategic echelon in the same form or give it the same tasks as it had before.

Although work is undoubtedly under way to set up new CIS Joint Armed Forces troop groupings and arrange for their strategic echelonment. But this work arises from entirely different assessments of the existing military danger, is based on the concept of "mobile defense," and presupposes the creation of structures which will be primarily aimed at preventing local conflicts.

As far as Russia is concerned, we need to take account above all of its security interests and its realistic potential. During the elaboration of proposals on the creation of Russian Armed Forces, the questions of their organizational development and echelonment will naturally be examined.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Is the General Staff currently exerting full control [kontrol] over the military units and combined units under the jurisdiction of the CIS Joint Armed Forces? What problems are there in this area?

[Samsonov] Controlling the troops' activities is one of the tasks carried out by the General Staff. But, with the formation of the CIS and the announcement by some of its member states that they are to set up their own armed forces, this task has been made considerably more difficult. The "privatization" of the troops located on these states' territories, the ambitions of certain politicians, the unilateral resolution of questions concerning the army, and the reluctance to reach a compromise sometimes considerably complicate the General Staff's ability to control the troops' lives and activities. This in turn could lead to a destabilization of the overall situation.

The main task today, in my view, is to ensure reliable monitoring [kontrol] of nuclear weapons. I can confidently assert that the General Staff, along with specialized forces and means, is confidently carrying out this task.

Another topical problem requiring constant General Staff control is staffing. Agreement was reached at the Minsk summit of heads of state this February that the CIS Joint Armed Forces should be manned by units of troops (forces) allocated out of the CIS states' own armed forces. But this question has not been finally worked out as yet.

As for troops (forces) which are not part of the sovereign states' armies but are located on their territories, as well as the groups of forces in the East European countries, the Baltic, and Mongolia, they come under the direct control of the General Staff, which continues to administer all of their activity, including the withdrawal.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] How are the Commonwealth states participating in financing and providing backup for the CIS Joint Armed Forces?

[Samsonov] Under the agreement on the formation of a unified defense budget signed between them in Minsk 14 February 1992 the Commonwealth states pledge to participate in the formation of a unified defense budget by paying fixed contributions into it. The same agreement stipulates that the size of these fixed contributions and the procedure for their payment will be determined the the Commonwealth Heads of Government Council. But, given that no such Council decision has yet been made, there is no Commonwealth defense budget. Therefore the Joint Armed Forces are still being financed mainly out of the Russian Federation budget.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] Attacks on military units are continuing in various regions. What statistics are currently available on these attacks? Do you have any generalized information on the human and material losses suffered by the Armed Forces as a result of such actions? What measures are being taken to rule out losses in the future?

[Samsonov] The CIS Joint Armed Forces High Command and the General Staff have accurate and exhaustive information about human and material losses. A clear-cut system of operational information about all illegal acts committed either by or against the troops has been worked out.

This year alone there have already been 305 attacks on military installations, including 34 on weapons and supply dumps, and 90 on guards (sentries). As a result of these attacks, 31 servicemen have been killed, 72 have been wounded, and more than 7,500 firearms and 500 units of combat and other equipment have been stolen. Most of the attacks have been in the Transcaucasus—265—with 16 in the North Caucasus. There have been four attacks in Central Asia, four in Siberia and the Far East, and eight in the central part of Russia.

Servicemen often have to show considerable restraint, persistence, and sometimes even courage in negotiating with local and state organs of power and administration with regard to each attack on military installations and seizure of people, weapons, or military hardware.

Close contacts have been established on all military and defense matters with the sovereign states' defense ministries (committees). The legal basis for the functioning and collaboration of strategic and general-purpose troops (forces) with the republics' military departments has been worked out and continues to be developed and improved. Measures are being taken to step up security around military installations and to provide them with technical means and fortifications. The training and selection of the personnel and the tasks of the sentry and internal services are being implemented in a higher-quality fashion. But, because of low manning levels at a number of combined and other units, it has proved harder to solve this problem. I wish to make no secret of the fact that we have even been forced to use officers to protect certain installations.

I am profoundly convinced that whatever measures are taken by the troops to protect and defend installations, this problem can only be completely resolved by reducing sociopolitical tension and ending armed conflicts in the regions.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] The last summit in Kiev is often said to have succeeded in resolving military issues. At the same time, there has been concern about the fact that no mechanism has been developed to implement the adopted agreements and accords. What can you say on that score?

[Samsonov] Yes, the Kiev summit should have provided the foundation for the planned and civilized reform of the former USSR's Armed Forces. All the more so as 34 documents were adopted on military matters at the Minsk and, particularly, the Kiev summits, whereas just five were passed at the first three summits.

What were these documents? I would recall that the Commonwealth heads of state signed agreements defining the powers of the top CIS organs on questions of defense, the position and functions of the Joint Armed Forces during the transitional period, the legal basis for their activity, and the principles underlying their manning and the provision of military hardware and other material means. Decisions were passed on the Joint Armed Forces High Command, and appointments made to leading positions in their structures. As you can see, a sizeable chunk of the military issues which constituted a stumbling block at previous summits was successfully resolved. But in practice all these agreements and accords are working poorly so far.

The negotiations with Ukraine about clarifying the list of combined and other units to be part of the Strategic Forces have been difficult. There have also been a lot of contradictions over the General-Purpose Forces.

Here we need to understand that the new political and economic relations between the Commonwealth states require not a cosmetic reorganization of the Armed Forces, but a profound revision of the principles of military organizational development and a search for original approaches to the resolution of the questions of guaranteeing the Commonwealth's defense capability.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA] It is well known that Russia, as a subject of international law and a UN Security Council member, is considered the successor to the former Union when it comes to carrying out the commitments under the START Treaty and the Paris CFE Treaty. How are these issues being resolved at the moment?

[Samsonov] May I briefly remind readers that the Commonwealth's stance on these issues is that the START Treaty—signed 31 July last year—should be ratified without delay. Russia advocates its strictest fulfillment. Moreover, it advocates in principle the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons.

The following measures have currently been taken to limit and reduce strategic offensive weapons. I will dwell on just a few points. Thus, around 600 land-based and sea-launched ballistic missiles (almost 1,250 nuclear warheads) have been stood down from combat alert [snyato s boyevogo dezhurstva]. Of this total, 130 ICBM's have been removed from their launch silos. Sixty-eight ICBM's and 49 launch silos have been destroyed [likvidirovany], and equipment has been dismantled at 81 silos.

Furthermore, six nuclear missile submarines have been decommissioned [vyvedeny iz boyevogo sostava]. Since last October all existing rail-mobile ICBM's have been at their permanent base sites. Tu-95MS and Tu-160 heavy bombers have been stood down from combat alert. Production of existing types of long-range air- and sea-launched nuclear cruise missiles is ending.

And one last point to which I would like to draw attention—the number of strategic offensive weapons on combat alert will be reduced to the level agreed in the treaty within a three-year period, instead of in seven years.

Now to turn to the CFE Treaty. Russia views it as one of the cornerstones of the future European and world security system. It is making efforts to ensure that the treaty comes into force and begins operating in full in the very near future.

The question of implementing the treaty is a subject for painstaking work between the independent Commonwealth states. The complexity of the problem lies in the search for decisions acceptable to the CIS members regarding the devolution of the former USSR's treaty commitments to the newly formed states. Several consultation sessions at expert level are currently under way. A number of difficulties have emerged in the course of this work. One significant difficulty is the problem of the distribution of the levels of arms held by the USSR and due to be limited under the treaty. The emergence of this problem is entirely natural, since it is bound up with the division of the former USSR's property, and each successor state is relying on its right to a share of this property, not least as regards defense potential.

But the generally constructive mood which, despite the presence of certain differences, prevails in the work on these problems, and the understanding of the treaty's importance shown by all interested parties gives every reason to believe that mutually acceptable solutions will be found.

Media

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 6 May

LD0605062492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0454 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS—By ITAR-TASS:

"The Russian Government has reached considerable success, as far as financial improvement is concerned," American adviser to the Russian Government Jeffrey Sachs said in an interview with the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA daily. "Difficult times are still ahead, no doubt. Decline in defense industry and in heavy industry will continue. Many unemployed will appear," Sachs predicted. Nevertheless, the major fears are behind. New jobs will emerge in service and trade. Bank employees, waiters, travel agents and all other workers engaged in answering everyday demands will be needed. Sachs said he was very optimistic about the future of Russia's foreign trade as Russia may become a very powerful exporter.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA published a number of articles about Russia's economic problems. Unfortunately we lost many experienced workers during the restructuring period, rector of the Academy of Control and Administration Anatoliy Porshnev wrote. There now is a generation gap in the administration system. Many nonprofessionals are now controlling the administration levers, Porshnev stressed. They are willing to work, but they are not trained for that. They lack deep fundamental knowledge and experience, he wrote. At the same time, reform should go ahead, Porshnev added.

"Russia's economic disease was diagnosed properly,"—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA wrote on Wednesday [6 May],—"and the essential medicines were chosen correctly. There are no other ways of combating inflation and any intelligent administration would have done the same if it were in Yeltsin and Gaydar's shoes. But as far as the dosage and side effects are concerned...".

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA, analysing the refugee situation in the CIS, said it is a paradox that Russians in Azerbaijan are afraid not of the Azeris but of Russia and of its geopolitic orientation, which was imposed on Yeltsin by some of his advisers. Russians feel themselves not only abandoned but also betrayed by their historic homeland. If Russians start their exodus from Azerbaijan, it will be both their tragedy and a severe blow to the Azerbaijani and Russian statehood.

ROSSIYSKAYA TRIBUNA wrote that one of Russian foreign policy's top priorities is to devise new treasures in relations with the neighbouring Muslim countries. Russian Foreign Ministry had been criticised for the absence of clear cut strategy in this direction. One must admit the criticism was justified, the newspaper wrote. Turkey and Iran were more active than Russia in drawing former Soviet Central Asian republics into the world community and that has caused bewilderment both in Russia and abroad... It would be a mistake to underestimate the unpleasant consequences from the ever strengthening Islamic fundamentalism for Russia's foreign policy, ROSSIYSKAYA TRIBUNA wrote.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carried an "appeal to Russian labourers" signed by the coordinative council of Russia's patriotic parties. The statement says among other things: "Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in his speech at the Cherepovets Metallurgy Plant, said that the

Congress of Russian People's Deputies had exhausted itself and it was necessary to get rid of it... Now that the threat to disband the Congress has been pronounced, people can realise that all the activities of the 'democrats,' who have used the slogan of the plenipotent Soviets to seize power, are being targeted at the destruction of the people's power... People's soviets must be preserved in Russia. We recommend to organise public committees of support of the People's Deputies of all levels in all the regions, territories and towns."

The TRUD daily published an interview with Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev where Dudayev tells the readers of the newspaper about his personal life and military and political career. Speaking about the developments in the Caucasus, Dudayev ruled out the possibility that the events in the Chechen Republic would develop according to Georgian scenario. Describing the relations between the Chechen Republic and the Russian Federation, Dudayev said his republic was maintaining close and friendly relations with Russia. He said talks on the new status of the Chechen Republic between Russian and Chechen parliamentary delegations were "successful".

Chief of CIS Joint Armed Forces' General Staff Colonel General Viktor Samsonov told a KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent that the main task for the CIS armed forces nowadays was to ensure a reliable control over the nuclear weapons and to organise proper enlistment in the army.

The agreements, reached between the CIS member-states have not been very effective so far, Samsonov said, but he expressed his confidence that politicians will make every effort to strengthen, not to weaken, the military ties between the CIS.

ITAR-TASS Carries 5 May Evening Press Review

LD0505183192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1800 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS—Today's evening issue of IZVESTIYA carries an article on the beginning of privatization in Kazakhstan.

The large-scale action is being done under a decree of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, says the newspaper. However, the state will preserve the right to control joint stock ventures.

The order of transformation of state enterprises in other forms of property will be controlled by the State Committee on State Property in close cooperation with other management bodies.

The decree resoluted "to recognize as the main form of transformation of state property the making of enterprises and organization joint stock ventures and creation on their basis of open joint stock societies," while up to ten per cent of the shares can be sold to interested foreign sides. The control share package will remain the state property.

At the same time, "persons, who are not citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan" cannot buy enterprises during the formation of the market economy, says the decree.

Estonia has canceled quotas on exports of agricultural products, which existed in the republic for about 18 months. From now on one can freely sell meat, milk, butter, potato and other foodstuffs.

The reason for new trade rules is that "new strategy is needed to survive", says IZVESTIYA. The inflation and price rise over the ban years have resulted in an almost 15-times drop of the population's living standards.

The cancellation of licences and quotas has been caused by the need to exchange agricultural products for Russian fuel, machinery and metal.

The Tajik Parliament continues a closed meeting, after gathering on demand of the governmental supporters holding a rally there. Parliamentarians have so far failed to find the way out of the complicated situation provoked by the opposition between the two sides—those participating in rallies before the Supreme Soviet building and the governmental residence, noted the newspaper.

The situation in the republic remains tense. In response to the Tajik president's decree on creation of the National Guard, the opposition resumed the formation of volunteer units, whose strength is nearing 20,000 people.

The Russian medics strike has entered a new stage. Polyclinics have stopped receiving patients, says IZVESTIYA. After the government refused to fulfill the medics' demands they were supported by the Federation of Independent Russian Trade Unions.

At a Moscow rally on May 1 they were also supported by French trade unions, who promised to appeal to the world public.

The U.S. Administration has threatened Russia and India with trade sanctions in case Moscow continues to fulfill the contract on delivery of rocket engines to India, signed before the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

The IZVESTIYA article on this issue says the contract is 200-250 million U.S. dollars worth. Washington keeps to the firm stand as regards the transition of rocket technology to the developing nations and demands strict observance of control over it.

The Russian president and parliament intend to issue a number of legislative acts in late May to regulate certain aspects of life of the Russian Cossacks to turn it into the authorities' ally.

In particular, the Russian Army will include Cossacks regiments, says the newspaper. The governmental commission, elaborating the draft law "on rehabilitation of the Cossacks", has prepared draft decrees of the Russian president on the use of land in areas of Cossacks compact residence and Cossacks' military service.

A Russian president decree to be released on May 20 provides for the restoration of Cossacks' regiments in the Russian Army. Every Cossack region will have its own military unit and is ready to pay a part of expenses on its maintenance. A post of military chaplains will be introduced in the regiments under an agreement with the Moscow patriarchate.

The fulfillment of the planned measures will "enable the neutralization of attempts of certain forces to use the Cossack movement in their political purposes" and turn Cossacks into an ally of the president and the government, and supporter and defender of the economic reforms, says IZVESTIYA.

The VECHERNAYA MOSKVA carries an article on problems of the housing-construction complex. Despite the fact builders are suffering from the shortage of finances, they intend to construct three million square meters of housing in Moscow this year, including one million—free of charge for those in municipal lines.

International Affairs

Official Discusses Mideast Talks, Latvia, Kurils

LD0505164192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1407 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Staroselskiy and Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS—"The fifth round of Arab-Israeli talks has made slight advances in the Palestinian-Israeli and Jordanian-Israeli directions," Sergey Yastrzhembskiy, director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, told a briefing here today.

He said the round had "failed to make substantial progress, but, nevertheless, has helped to keep up the necessary dynamics of the negotiations and to outline their further contours. The Lebanese-Israeli contacts were, on the whole, of a businesslike character".

Yastrzhembskiy commented on the statement made to journalists in Helsinki by Peters, the Latvian Ambassador to Russia. In his opinion, the Latvian diplomat "has distorted the true picture of Latvian-Russian relations and his statement contained arbitrary assessments of the Russian government's policy".

"Peters' claims that talks between Russia and Latvia on the withdrawal of troops had not even begun do not conform to the actual state of affairs," Yastrzhembskiy stressed. He recalled that talks between official delegations of the two countries were held in Riga already on February 1, 1992. Teams of experts were set up on the basis of their results. They had three meetings since then. As to the Latvian ambassador's assertions that there are contradictions between Russian diplomats and military leaders on the withdrawal of troops from the republic, they are "merely a hackneyed trick, tantamount to outright disinformation".

The Russian Foreign Ministry is surprised by the tactlessness of some of Peters' public statements in respect to a country where he is accredited. "All this does not conform to generally accepted diplomatic standards," the Russian diplomat stressed.

Replying to observers, Yastrzhembskiy touched on the reduction of the Russian military contingent on the South Kuril Islands. He said Russia had already cut its forces on the South Kurils by thirty per cent. About 7,000 servicemen are now deployed there. They guard the frontier and are responsible for the maintenance of local lighthouses.

Adviser of the Russian Foreign Minister Galina Sidorova, who took part in the briefing, told journalists that Andrey Kozyrev would go to Strasbourg on Wednesday to attend a meeting of the Council of Europe. "We hope Russia will shortly become a member of that very important European organisation," she said.

Reportage on Burbulis' Visit to Delhi

Arrives in Delhi 3 May

LD0305062692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0405 GMT 3 May 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Delhi, 3 May—The state secretary of the Russian Federation, Gennadiy Burbulis, who arrived in the Indian capital on an official visit early this morning, expressed confidence that Russia and India will maintain and effectively develop traditionally good relations between the two countries. Answering journalists' questions at the airport, he said that the aim of the visit is "to confirm serious and resolute intentions of the Russian leadership to develop full-blooded relations with India and its people."

"We are," he said, "in favor of relations between Russia and India resting on results that already exist and reflecting, at the same time, a prospect linked to the setting up of an independent Russian state and to the vast plans of India's development."

He said he had a message for the Indian prime minister from President Boris Yeltsin. A number of documents, "which will confirm our constructive and pragmatic mutual position," are expected to be signed in the course of the visit. Important international problems will be discussed at the talks, along with a wide range of issues of bilateral relations.

Answering a question of whether Russia was lagging behind in developing bilateral contacts with India, which had already been visited by the heads of a number of other CIS states, G. Burbulis assessed the accusations that Moscow "has lost interest" in India as groundless. "The fact that our CIS partners have managed to find time in their political schedules to visit a bit earlier than we does not mean anything," he stressed. "Russia has never been too late anywhere."

The program for the three-day visit envisages meetings and talks with Indian President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, Vice President Shankar Dayal Sharma, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Finance Manmohan Singh, Minister of Defense Sharad Pawar, P. Chidambaram, minister of state for commerce, and B. Shankaranand, minister of state for petroleum and natural gas.

G. Burbulis was welcomed at the I. Gandhi international airport by Eduardo Faleiro, Indian minister of state for external affairs, and other officials. The ambassador of the Russian Federation in India, Anatoliy Dryukov, was also at the airport. Petr Aven, minister of foreign economic ties; Andrey Nechayev, minister of economy; and Vladimir Lopukhin, minister of fuel and power engineering, have arrived together with the secretary of state.

First Round of Talks 'Favorable'

LD0305132292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1240 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] New Delhi May 3 TASS—During the first round of Russian-Indian talks that began here, the two sides "saw for themselves three favourable factors which can add substance to the visit," Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation, who arrived in the Indian capital today, told ITAR-TASS after the morning meeting with Indian Finance Minister Manmohan Singh.

Burbulis singled out as the first factor the "full understanding by India that Russia is busy tackling a set of domestic and foreign problems which cannot be disregarded in the establishment of bilateral relations".

"The second factor is that we are brought together by the reformist concept," he said. "The line towards reforms both in India and in Russia brings us still closer together and ensures a constructive dialogue. Thirdly, we mapped out a range of problems which are vital, specifically those concerning economic and trade relationships".

Burbulis said the talks would be continued in the afternoon in a broader format. "We shall set about a detailed discussion of problems facing us," he added.

ITAR-TASS correspondents learned from informed sources that one of key points of Russian-Indian economic relations—the correlation of the rouble and the rupee in mutual settlements in the repayment of the earlier utilised Soviet State credits by India—will be touched upon during the second round of the talks.

The Indian side insists that the present correlation does not reflect financial and credit-lending realities. But if the rate of the rupee against the rouble is upvalued, India's payments, estimated at an aggregate of 370,000 million rupees (10,000 million foreign-exchange roubles), for credits which were granted to India at one time by the Soviet Union may get devalued. The Indian payments are being used by Russia for the purchase of the necessary Indian goods.

Experts believe that the search for a solution to this problem will require a long and comprehensive analysis of the obtaining situation with due regard for the balance of interests of the two sides.

'Tense' Talks Over Debt Held

LD0305204592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1608 GMT 3 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Delhi, 3 May (ITAR-TASS)— A mutual desire to "untie the knots" in bilateral relations was affirmed during the second round of Russian-Indian talks which took place today within the context of the official visit to India by Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation.

A tense dialogue, lasting three hours instead of the planned two, enabled the two sides to come to an agreement on the main issue: an understanding of the importance of preserving the stored-up potential for mutually beneficial cooperation. However, it has not as yet been possible to find an acceptable solution to the problem which the Indian side has raised in a most acute way, namely that of raising the rate of the rupee against the ruble in mutual payments.

As Andrey Nechayev, Russian Federation minister of the economy, told the ITAR-TASS correspondents, the Russian delegation "asserted its general position." "We must clearly separate India's old debts in terms of the credits granted to it earlier by the Soviet Union from the current and also future payments, declared the minister. When repaying previous credits, there can be no question of reexamining the total sum of payments on the basis of the current, excessively inflated, course of the ruble against the dollar. One can speak only of what share of the debts we can "forgive" India in the form of deferred payments or in some other form.

The Indian side, incidentally, previously did not agree that we could thereby write-off about one third of the debt. We are nevertheless ready to carry out current payments and future operations using the dollar as the means of calculating the clearing balance." Nechayev added that an extra meeting of the expert groups this evening would be devoted to examining this issue.

On the other hand, the minister said, the current Russian debt to India for technical credits for 1991 did not pass without mention during the second round of talks, and it was also examined with respect to the ratio of the ruble and the rupee. Russia's new approaches to resolving the problem of military-technical cooperation, a problem no less acute in the economic relations between the two countries, were clearly laid out.

"In 1992 and 1993 we shalltry to commercialize this previously highly politicized sphere of bilateral relations," Nechayev said. He recalled that the main portion of Indian indebtedness arose precisely because of credits for arms exports from the USSR. The minister declared that Russia might grant a new credit for arms supplies to India, but at double the interest and on condition that one tenth of this is paid in advance.

In a conversation with ITAR-TASS correspondents, Vladimir Lopukhin, minister of fuel and power engineering, reported that the sides also examined a number of aspects of ensuring the supply of oil and petroleum products by Russia in accordance with the Russian-Indian trade protocal for the current year, and also of cooperation in the area of the construction and running of power-engineering installations in India. Admitting that there are problems with keeping to supplies of Russian oil on the basis of agreements reached for this

year, the minister reported that the first step has nonetheless been taken: A tanker carrying 60,000 tons of oil left Novorossiysk for India on Saturday.

Meets Congress Party Leaders

LD0405075892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0720 GMT 4 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] New Delhi May 4 TASS—The second day of the official visit to India by Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation, began on Monday with a meeting with the leadership of the ruling Indian National Congress (I) Party.

During an interested conversation, the two sides reaffirmed commitment to the traditions of friendship and cooperation that had always been characteristic of relations between the Soviet Union and India which and now assume new forms in relations with the Soviet Union's successor—the Russian Federation.

The Russian state secretary's visit and the Russian-Indian talks that began on Sunday arouse much interest among the political and public circles of India.

As the influential newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES points out, India and Russia have begun to conduct a cautious but positive dialogue, discussing problems and prospects both in the political and economic spheres and expressing a common desire to act for the benefit of each other.

The first results of the talks indicate that the two sides, while retaining the best of the previous cooperation experience, seek to elevate cooperation to a fundamentally new level, the newspaper emphasises.

The signing of joint inter-governmental documents on trade and economic cooperation will be today's central event of the visit.

Comments on Relations

LD0405132892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1301 GMT 4 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] New Delhi May 4 ITAR-TASS—"Inspired pragmaticism", this is how Russian Secretary of State Gennadiy Burbulis summed up the basic principle of future relations between Russia and India. Commenting at the request of ITAR-TASS on the negotiations with Indian Prime Minster P.V. Narasimha Rao held on Monday afternoon, he said that the head of the Indian government had agreed with such a definition.

Burbulis said this principle can exhaustively express the striving of the two countries to treasure the historic values and fine democratic goals that were set earlier, and also to ensure that relations which had been guided by ideological situation yield practical results.

The state secretary said that strategic aspects of bilateral relations regarding the region and the whole world had been discussed and formulated during the conversation which he described as very substantive.

Burbulis handed over to the prime minister Boris Yeltsin's message confirming the Russian president's promise to visit India before the end of the year.

Burbulis said the message expresses the interest of the Russian president in the strengthening and development of ties between Russia and India, considering that both countries are now in the process of reforms and can understand each other more profoundly.

At the request of P.V. Narasimha Rao, Burbulis summed up the situation in Russia and spoke of the course of the economic reform. He said in this connection that in relations with India, Russia will be striving ever more to ensure that practical, economic, financial and trading matters of interstate nature be decided on the basis of interests of Russian producers.

In his turn, the Indian prime minister set out the basic criteria of India's state strategy regarding Russia. "We got convinced again that the Indian government has adopted a calm and balanced form of communication respecting our traditions and history and based on unconditional trust in President Yeltsin and Russian reforms".

Noting the importance of maintaining regular contacts between leaders of the two countries, the secretary of state said he was most favourably impressed by P.V. Narasimha Rao, "a politician with vast experience and ability for strategic thinking, a politician who is interesting to us and whom we hold in esteem".

Members of the Russian governmental delegation were present at a luncheon Gennadiy Burbulis gave to representatives of the Russian media. Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Pyotr Aven said that the Indian government's decision to open the earlier frozen credit for the purchase of 2.5 billion rupies worth of goods from India was announced at a meeting with chiefs of the Foreign Ministry, the ministries of finance and commerce on Monday. This will make it possible immediately to begin the deliveries to Russia of tea, coffee, tobacco and spices, he said.

Trade, Economic Agreements Signed

LD0405171992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1641 GMT 4 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] New Delhi May 4 TASS—Agreements on trade and economic cooperation between Russia and India

and on an inter-governmental commission on trade-economic and scientific and technical cooperation were signed here today during an official visit to India by Russian State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis.

Commenting on the 5-year agreement on trade and economic cooperation, Russian Foreign Economic Minister Petr Aven praised its importance, saying that it "characterizes the level of political relations between our two countries".

"In the past two years and after the break-up of the Soviet Union we moved away from practically ideal relations with India," Aven said.

"Now we are making a step towards each other. The agreement raises our trade and economic ties to the former level," he said.

The agreement was signed by State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis and for India—by state minister for trade P. Chidambaram and State Foreign Minister Eduardo Faleiro.

Holds News Conference in Delhi

LD0505121592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1011 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Delhi, 5 May—As a result of the talks in Delhi "there has been confirmation of determination constructively to implement the program for cooperation between Russia and India, which is currently taking on concrete form." This was stated by Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation, while reviewing his official visit to India.

At a news conference held here today, he highly appraised the work done jointly by the Russian and Indian sides saying that it had made it possible "to lay a firm foundation for the visit to India by President Yeltsin, which will certainly take place in the second half of 1992."

"It is absolutely clear today that there are inviolable historical links and even more significant prospects between Russia and India, declared the state secretary. Our points of view coincide on practically all main questions with regards to reforms that are presently under way in both countries. All problems and difficulties that had recently arisen in our relations were given a honest and professional assessment, and we worked out either concrete solutions or ways to approach them on practically all points".

Burbulis reported that during the visit the text of a treaty on friendship and cooperation between Russia and India was "practically finalized." According to him this document may be signed during Yeltsin's visit to India and it will then become "a fundamental legal basis for Russian-Indian relations."

Touching upon the question strongly pressed by the Indian side of regulating the exchange rate between the ruble and the rupee in mutual accounts—a problem related to the repayment by India of long-term credits that had been given to it at a certain time by the Soviet Union—and the financial and credit guarantees in bilateral trade, Burbulis admitted that "a final solution has not been found." This is due to certain differences in approach between Russia and India.

"At the same time, noted the state secretary, the fact that Russia has renewed the export of oil, military equipment, and newsprint to India, and that the Indian side has opened a technical credit for 2.5 billion rupees for exporting tea, coffee, spices, and tobacco to Russia, means that we are certain that there will be a mutually beneficial counter-solution to this problem in the very near future."

Burbulis said that notwithstanding all the difficulty of the issues which had to be addressed, based on a mutual desire to pursue fruitful cooperation, many of them had "found precise, practical, and specific solutions" from the point of view of the economic, trade, and financial prospects of Russian-Indian relations. "I became convinced, he said, that such mutual understanding proved possible to a greater extent due to the fact that we are currently engaged in a common cause: We are pursuing difficult but vitally necessary reforms of the artificial economy which was implanted both in the Soviet Union and in India by the perverted and mistaken ideology of socialist production."

"We are embarking on a new diplomacy—a diplomacy not of words and dreams, but of a pragmatic approach based on the real possibilities of our economies, under which there is real respect and consideration for the interests of each state with due account of the real prospects of our cooperation."

Burbulis confirmed Russia's aspiration to combine what used to exist between India and the USSR and is worthy of preserving and developing, with the fact that the state entering into these relations is now a fundamentally new one—the Russian Federation, which "is building its own international policy and has categorically rejected hegemonism and ideologized duress on any countries."

Answering a question as to whether Russia would yield to pressure from the United States over the issue of transferring to India cryogenic rocket-engine technology, an issue that has been attracting very close attention here in the last few days, Burbulis stressed that "all possible arguments have already been voiced, and Russia's position remains adamant." "We intend to confirm our obligations under this contract, relying on international, neutral expert advice, which will enable us to remove all questions, from whichever side they may arise, the state secretary declared. We consider that an approach such as this corresponds to the norms underlying international relations, and can be a good lesson for all of us, including those states which aspire to be legislators of fashions all

over the world, and which do not always correlate this with their partners' interests."

Talking about the attitude of Russia to the events in Afghanistan and their possible effect on the situation in adjacent Central Asian sovereign republics, the state secretary firmly stated that he dismissed "the threat of the military way of solving problems spreading to the territories of the Asian republics of the former USSR." At the same time he stressed Russia's "maximum interest" in the stabilization of the situation in Afghanistan and in the region as a whole. The possibilities of uniting the efforts of Russia and India for this purpose were also discussed in Delhi.

Today, after concluding his stay in the Indian capital, Burbulis and the officials accompanying him left for Bombay, a major industrial and cultural center of India. Eduardo Faleiro, the Indian minister of state for external affairs, as well as Anatoliy Dryukov, the ambassador of the Russian Federation in India, who are accompanyng him on the trip, left together with the state secretary.

Meets Businessmen in Bombay

LD0505184892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1756 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Bombay May 5 TASS—The Russian leadership intends to lend all-round support to forging trade and economic interaction between Russian and Indian small and medium non-state enterprises and help deepen cooperative links between entrepreneurs. This approach was clearly expressed during meeting which the Russian governmental delegation led by State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis held in Bombay, India's largest business centre, today.

The meeting between Burbulis and Finance Minister of Maharashtra State Ramrao Adika focused on specific issues of strengthening business links between Russian and Indian producers. The useful and lively discussion continued at the meeting with leading Bombay industrialists and businessmen in the evening, which was organised at the initiative of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD0505211292 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2005 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Karmalito]

[Text] Delhi, 5 May—Gennadiy Burbulis, state secretary of the Russian Federation, left Bombay for Moscow today at the end of his three-day official visit to India. With the state secretary on his departure for Russia were the members of the Russian Government delegation that has accompanied him.

'Dilemma' Over Rocket Motor Sales to India

PM0605093592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 92 Morning Edition pp 1, 6

[Vladimir Skosyrev report: "Bush Administration Threatens Russia With Economic Sanctions. Conflict Flares Over Our Rocket Technology Shipments to India"]

[Text] The Bush administration has threatened Russia and India with trade sanctions.

These sanctions could be applied to both countries if Moscow implements a contract, signed before the Union's collapse, to supply India with rocket motors. The contract is valued at $200-250 million.

The warning, articulated by a State Department spokesman, shows that the April talks in Moscow between U.S. and Russian experts were a failure. Washington continues to take a hard line on transfers of rocket technology, particularly to developing countries. The Americans are demanding unswerving observance of the Missile Technology Control Regime—an agreement concluded by the Western powers. Russia has not signed this agreement, but has promised to act in accordance with its provisions.

Washington's pressure is making Moscow think seriously. On the one hand, a profitable contract whose fulfillment would allow us to acquire scarce consumer goods from India is at stake. And it is not just a question of a single specific contract—albeit a very large one. We are also talking about preserving the relations of trust which traditionally bind Moscow and Delhi.

Incidentally, Indian parliamentarians have branded the U.S. policy in the most unambiguous terms, assessing it as interference in Russo-Indian relations. And, naturally, people in Delhi are now waiting with immense interest to see Moscow's reaction to the U.S. threat.

On the other hand, if Moscow disregards the U.S. warning it runs the risk of losing around $4 billion in aid which has already been pledged. After all, President Bush will find it hard to win Congressional approval for this aid if the legislators are convinced that Russia is promoting the worldwide spread of missile weaponry.

How can Moscow resolve this dilemma? We asked the two departments involved—Glavkosmos [Main Administration for the Development and Use of Space Technology for the National Economy and Scientific Research] and the Foreign Ministry. The Glavkosmos staffer's opinion was unambiguous. The launcher which we are planning to sell the Indians cannot be used for military purposes and, consequently, is not covered by the missile technology control agreement. He also made the following point: The rocket stage in question would take approximately 90 days to get ready for launching. In other words, this is a purely civilian project, and in this instance the United States is concerned not about preserving international security, but about protecting its

own space industry from competition. They want to maintain their monopoly on satellite launches for peaceful purposes. After all, this market is in practice controlled by U.S. companies and the French "Arianespace." Since Washington is guided by protectionist motives, the Glavkosmos staffer believes, Russia should carry out the agreement with India, regardless of U.S. action.

The Foreign Ministry expert was more cautious. In his opinion, the Americans are seriously interested in stopping the spread of missile weaponry worldwide. So their opinion should not be ignored. U.S. and Russian specialists should meet again and try to determine the extent to which the conditions of the Soviet-Indian accord correspond to the control regime.

When representatives of two state departments advocate ideas that do not entirely coincide, it means that the decision has to be made at the political leadership level. What will that decision be? As fate would have it, Russian State Secretary G. Burbulis is currently in India at this delicate time. And he had to answer journalists' questions whether he liked it or not. Our special correspondents report from Delhi that G. Burbulis said that Russia intends to fulfill its commitment to India. But, given the concern aroused by the deal, Russia also proposes allowing it to be assessed by neutral international experts.

Will this idea suit Washington?

U.S. Opposes Russian Rocket Sale to India

927Q0145A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 92 p 5

[Article by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA columnist Aleksandr Vasilev: "'Star Wars': Indian Variant"]

[Text] *Why the Russian-Indian Space Project Is Under a Threat*

India has been working for a long time on the development of its own rocket technology. At the present time, the Indian space research organization is developing three types of launch vehicles for placing various purpose satellites into orbit. It is necessary to note that these projects have aroused concern in the West. The fact is that peaceful rocket programs have been implemented in close cooperation with the military at all times and in all countries.

Be that as it may, to continue developments (according to the Delhi announcement, for peaceful purposes), the Indians needed cryogenic (liquid hydrogen) engines. In 1986-1988, they turned to the English, French, Americans, and to the Soviet Union. At first, nothing materialized with the Western firms, and the Indians contacted Glavkosmos [Main Administration for the Development and Use of Space Technology for the National Economy and Science]—an organization which has been conducting joint projects with foreign firms on a commercial basis for several years now. The French found out about this, and, in October 1989, they immediately submitted two draft agreements. Then the Americans became alarmed, declaring that the delivery of engines violates the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The U.S. Congress sharply condemned the Franco-Indian negotiations, and it threatened France with economic sanctions. Meanwhile, on the personal instructions of U.S. President G. Bush, a delegation from the General Dynamics firm arrived in Delhi and offered its services to the Indians. However, the French held firm, not yielding to pressure from Washington.

To understand the further course of events, it is necessary to examine what the regime of control is over missile technology (MTCR). An agreement on compliance was signed in 1987 by the United States, France, Canada, FRG, Italy, Great Britain, and Japan. Later, several other countries joined them. Formally, the purpose of the MTCR is to prevent states that are working on the development of their own nuclear weapons from receiving the means for their delivery; i.e., missiles and their production technology. The MTCR permits the transfer of technology and "articles," if the recipient state obligates itself to use them for peaceful purposes only, not modifying, not copying, and not transferring them to third countries. The MTCR unambiguously prohibits the transfer of industrial capabilities for the production of missiles.

As far back as 1988, the Soviet Union did not intend to join the regime of control for one simple reason: We would have placed upon ourselves new obligations that restricted us at a time when the unequal position of the USSR in the sphere of the exchange of the newest technology prevailed. We also did not want to join the MTCR in 1989. However, in 1990 we yielded.

Meanwhile, no one promised Moscow that it would receive rights equal with the West in the sphere of exchange of the newest technologies. What does this mean in practice? Here is just one example. Russia is capable of launching foreign satellites with its rockets on a commercial basis. One launch alone costs about $60 million. There are many interested parties, inasmuch as Russians charge less for this than other countries. But there is also a law, adopted by the U.S. Congress: If a satellite has components made in America, or produced according to American technology, special permission of the U.S. State Department is required for its launching with a non-American rocket. Meanwhile, the world electronics market is so flooded with American products that without them, only one country in the world—Russia—can produce satellites. Thus, all of the other satellites fall under the action of U.S. legislation, and Washington does not permit Russia to conduct commercial launches. The latest example in this area: A contract for the launch of two South Korean satellites was terminated.

Meanwhile, the Americans allow China to conduct launches....

However, let us return to the Indian project. As we recall, three proposals were before the Indians—American, French, and ours. In the end, they chose ours, and on 18 January 1991, India signed an agreement with Glavkosmos. The Americans found out about the possibility of the signing from the Indian newspaper ECONOMIC TIMES as early as November 1990—and accusations started. We were accused of violating the missile technology control regime (which we, I remind you, did not join). To this, Russia answers that the MTCR permits the transfer of engines and technology, that India committed itself to fulfill all conditions (not to employ them for military purposes, not to transfer them, etc.), and that it is not a question of the transfer of production capabilities. The Russian side demands a meeting with American experts, but Washington refuses to do even this, demanding that the contract be broken and threatening sanctions.

Losses in the event of a breach of the agreement with the Indians are enormous, inasmuch as not only will the project on the cryogenic engine be stopped, but other projects also. Moreover, the prestige of Russia as a reliable partner in the sphere of space will be undermined, inasmuch as it, in contrast to France and China, was not able to withstand the pressure of Washington. The total financial losses are estimated by specialists at four billion Indian rupees and tens of millions of dollars. In the next few months, about 65,000 workers of the Russian space industry will be laid off.

Glavkosmos demands that an examination be conducted. It has something to tell the specialists. First of all, that it does not make sense to utilize what is intended for delivery to India for military purposes. To launch a rocket with a cryogenic engine, it has to be fueled 90 days before the launch. By comparison with today's technology, which the Indians also have, it is a thing of the past. And more—with regard to the question of "civilized relations." The majority of specialists of the Indian space research organization served their apprenticeship in Western centers. In their work, they utilize modern American computers, which are banned from export to Russia by the rules of the "civilized community." All Indian rockets use systems that were manufactured on the integral microcircuits of the American firm Motorola. Two types of rockets have the Vikas engine, which was manufactured under the license of the French firm SEP and which works on fuel components used for military missiles.

On 14 February 1992, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who was in Moscow, told Andrey Kozyrev, minister of foreign affairs of Russia, that the transaction of Glavkosmos with India creates big problems and can be a serious obstacle on the path to American-Russian cooperation in the space area. J. Baker emphasized that the transaction with India can result in the introduction of trade sanctions against Russia on the part of the United States. But television showed two smiling ministers, and there was talk about what friends Russia and America have become.

The next Baker-Kozyrev conversation on this subject was held on 6 March in Brussels. The U.S. secretary of state declared that if Russia quickly breaks the contract with India, "the United States will be able to examine the question of renouncing sanctions" (American wording). On 23 March, J. Baker summoned Vladimir Lukin, Russia's ambassador in Washington, and demanded that the contract be broken before 3 April.

From 3 to 7 April in Moscow, G. Berdennikov, the deputy minister of foreign affairs of Russia, received J. Collins, an adviser-envoy of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, and he twice raised the question of holding a meeting of Russian and American experts for a discussion on the Russian-Indian contract. J. Collins declared that Washington views this idea negatively, and he noted that the decision to hold to a tough line on this question was made at a high political level with the participation of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, and that the American side does not have any more room for maneuver and a show of flexibility.

At the beginning of April, several analytical notes appeared in B.N. Yeltsin's organization regarding the Russian-Indian project: from the Secretariat of G. Burbulis, the Ministry of Economics, the MVES [Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations], the MFA [Ministry of Foreign Affairs], and the General Staff. According to information available to me, the position of Glavkosmos was supported by MVES and G. Burbulis (he, incidentally, is going to India on 1 May). A "flexible position" was taken by the MFA, the Ministry of Economics, and the General Staff. On 9 April, Russian President Boris Yeltsin laid out a resolution consisting of two points. First point: Pause in the implementation of the contract with India. Second point: Try to get a meeting from the American side at the level of experts...

Watanabe Visit Fails To Solve Territory Issue

OW0605111892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1007 GMT 6 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's visit to Moscow has not resulted in any rapprochement on the cardinal, territorial, issue, a Russian Foreign Ministry executive announced. He also informed IF [INTERFAX] that the talks did not produce either mutually-acceptable formulas, nor similar approaches to the problem of territorial demarcation.

The Russian diplomat believes at the same time that Watanabe's visit to Moscow was rather useful. The two sides have drafted an intensive schedule of further talks and agreed that the Japanese foreign minister would come to Moscow again, at the end of July. It is not ruled out that prior to Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan, scheduled for September 14 and 15, Tokyo will be visited by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. "All this shows that neither Japan nor Russia has been discouraged," said the Russian diplomat.

He said that a declaration on the principles of bilateral relations will be drafted by the time Yeltsin leaves for Japan. Parallely, a peace treaty will also be drafted. In his opinion, the text of the peace treaty does not arouse any particular doubts with the exception of the territorial problem and other minor issues.

Diplomats Discuss Talks

OW0605031792 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1800 GMT 4 May 92

[Studio interview with Akio Kuwata, counselor of the Japanese Embassy, and V. I. Sablin, of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Sergey Goryachev; from the Utro program—live]

[Text] [Goryachev] Today in the Utro program studio we have two guests. Akio Kawata, counsellor of the Japanese Embassy and chief of the embassy's information department. Good morning to you.

[Kawata] Good morning.

[Goryachev] And Vasiliy Ivanovich Sablin, first deputy chief of the second administration of the Asia-Pacific Region Department of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs—a long name. Good morning and welcome.

[Sablin] Good morning.

[Goryachev] From the scant official reports that we have just viewed and read it is hard to form a correct idea of what happened at the [Russian-Japanese] talks. You took part in them. Could you tell us about the atmosphere at these talks in a few words? Let us begin with you Kawata-san.

[Kawata] Very well. As your program showed very well, the atmosphere was generally very warm, frank, and open as well as constructive, and we achieved certain specific agreements.

[Goryachev] Well, for example?

[Kawata] Well, for example, the most important thing was that President Yeltsin is to visit Japan during the middle of September—that is on the 14th and 15th. Besides, both ministers of foreign affairs are to exchange visits prior to the Yeltsin visit while a working group on solving the territorial issue will meet in about June. These are the agreements that were reached.

[Goryachev] Good, there has been some breakthrough. Now what about your impressions, Vasiliy Ivanovich?

[Sablin] Yes, I completely agree with what Mr. Kawata said. It is sufficient to recall that during the past decades we had no contacts between ministers of foreign affairs. Yet take a look at the active dialogue that has been going on recently. It is a dialogue that really has been directed toward achieving some kind of agreement, a dialogue which is based on the mutual desire of the sides to solve all problems existing between them and establish truly friendly relations oriented toward the future.

[Goryachev] Let us talk about the main agreement which, in my opinion must be reached. The Tokyo correspondent of the newspaper IZVESTIYA quite fairly pointed out, when speaking about the territorial issue, that in our country the discussion is mainly centered around guesses as to whether or not our political leaders will give up the disputed islands, and if they eventually do so, how much will they get and in what currency. He is right, this view does prevail. But this probably does not reflect the true state of affairs. So what progress has been made, if any, over the territorial issue? I direct this question to you, please, Kawata-san.

[Kawata] Yes, generally it would be wrong to characerize this question in terms of should the islands be given up or not. From our point of view it is not simply a matter of giving them up or not, because these four islands, we insist never belonged to anyone else but Japan before the end of World War II. That is why it is not a question of returning or not returning them or selling or not selling them. From our point of view it is not a question of economic benefit for Japan but strictly an issue of legality and justice.

Of course we will not be buying these islands for money. This is a very mercenary attitude. But naturally if this issue is solved this decision will open up extremely broad opportunities for our cooperation, particularly economic. This is our position.

[Goryachev] Vasiliy Ivanovich, before I give you the floor I would like to say that it seems to me that to a great extent Japan has only itself to blame for the fact that the public here in Russia sees the question of turning over these islands in very close proximity to economic assistance. If, for instance, Japan maintained that these islands should be returned on the basis of one or another agreements or treaties that existed in the past, that is one matter. But insofar as Japan itself began saying that if the islands are not returned then economic assistance and economic cooperation would be frozen or would not be as extensive as it could be, it is natural that now in the minds of many people this is associated particularly with the problem of giving them up for something. And I think that to some extent the Japanese side is to blame for this. So now what can you say?

[Sablin] Possibly you are right from the point of view of how the problem is perceived by the public. But I would like to categorically reiterate that this problem has by no means anything to do with any kind of deal, with how much they should be bought or sold for. This is a problem with completely different paramaters. It is a problem that must be viewed in terms of international law, and principles of legality and justice. In other words, it is by no means linked directly with economic cooperation.

It is another matter that so far, in order to achieve its aims, Japan has to a certain extent adhered to the principle that politics and economics are indivisible. But

I think that overall we now see the atmosphere of relations changing. Completely new relations of confidence are taking shape, something which was absent before. They are the result of the consistent course of the new Russian leadership aimed at approaching Japan not as an enemy defeated in World War II. In other words we are rejecting an approach to one another, or a view of one another as former enemies. So we view things on the basis of the interests of a future development of relations. We consider that both sides are obliged to build new, good relations. A peace treaty is essential for both countries. This corresponds with the national interests of both sides. And this mutual understanding is creating a new base for a specific negotiating process and progress in the talks.

[Goryachev] In concluding our discussion I would like to hear very briefly your impressions about the recent talks. Have they been a success or not? Very briefly, Kawata-san, a few words.

[Kawata] Yes, well generally in a word, of course they have been a success, and as I have already said President Yeltsin's visit to Japan has already been set and both sides have agreed to speed up the negotiation process in order to solve the territorial issue as well as to conclude a peace treaty. We also confirmed the mutual desire to solve this issue on the basis of legality and justice. That is why it has been generally a big success.

[Goryachev] Very good. Vasiliy Ivanovich, your turn.

[Sablin] I agree with this because this visit, which was viewed as a certain stage in preparations for the president's visit, helped to even further deepen mutual understanding and clarify the positions of the two sides. The intention to carry out the visit was reaffirmed. The most active schedule for the coming summer, a period of the most active new mutual contacts, was adopted. So relations are developling and I think that everything is moving in the proper direction.

[Goryachev] Thank you. I thank you for the fact that your diplomatic status did not hinder your desire and opportunity to express your views in a language understandable to people and to show some emotions, although honestly speaking, I was afraid that diplomatic protocol would not permit you to go beyond this framework. Thank you.

Japanese Official Comments on Visit

OW0605052892 Moscow Radio Moscow in Japanese 1300 GMT 5 May 92

[Interview with Seiji Morimoto, chief of the International Press Division, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Moscow Radio reporter Andrey Sidorov on 4 May; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Morimoto] There was again a meeting between Foreign Ministers Kozyrev and Watanabe today, and basic agreement was reached on President Yeltsin's visit to Japan on 14 and 15 September. Therefore, both Japan and Russia have set the upcoming visit of Japan by President Yeltsin as a goal for effecting a major turning point in bilateral relations. We will now devote all efforts toward this target, and solve the territorial issue in order to establish genuine, friendly relations—that is, a partnership based on the peace treaty.

As Foreign Ministers Watanabe and Kozyrev have confirmed between themselves, both sides have a favorable disposition and the political will to resolve this issue. Through meetings between foreign ministers of both countries and proceedings of the working group on the peace treaty, efforts will be exerted toward this end.

[Sidorov] There was also a meeting of about 1 hour and 40 minutes with Vice President Rutskoy from 1500 this afternoon.

[Morimoto] Yes, Foreign Minister Watanabe held a meeting of about 1 hour and 40 minutes with Vice President Rutskoy this afternoon.

[Sidorov] What was the substance of the talks?

[Morimoto] Well, they again confirmed the need to exert efforts to resolve the territorial issue. On the part of Vice President Rutskoy—to repeat what Vice President Rutskoy said, in his view, relations between the two countries as neighbors are extremely important. Since Russia and Japan are neighbors to each other, he stressed that the two countries should share the pains and establish peaceful relations. From the same standpoint, Foreign Minister Watanabe stressed that both sides should not be overly constrained by their previous positions, and should exert efforts toward the solution of the problem. Vice President Rutskoy also stated that from the domestic situation in Russia, it is apparent that opposition to the northern territories exists.

[Sidorov] The problem of the local residents [of the Kurils] was discussed during the second round of talks between Foreign Ministers Kozyrev and Watanabe.

[Morimoto] Very detailed discussions were conducted on practical matters of bilateral relations. Working level issues were discussed. To cite an example, there are plans to hold policy planning consultations at the Foreign Ministry level between Japan and Russia. Foreign Minister Watanabe suggested that meetings involving also officials in charge of defense should be held as soon as possible. In view of the need to improve communications between the two countries in order to facilitate economic and personnel exchanges between Japan and the Russian Far East, it was suggested that both countries should cooperate in private level negotiations being conducted in this respect. Furthermore, the need to assist efforts to open ferry services between Japan and the Far East was also mentioned. Detailed discussions were held on very practical matters. The rest of the time, they discussed international issues, such as the situation in the CIS and the issue of nuclear weapons.

Federation Affairs

Decree To Include Cossacks in Army Ready

LD0605090192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1715 GMT 5 May 92

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS—The Russian president and parliament intend to issue a range of legislative acts regulating some aspects of the Russian Cossacks' life to turn them into the authorities' ally. Specifically, there will be regiments of Cossacks in the Russian Army which is now being formed, the IZVESTIYA newspaper reports today.

The governmental commission, which is drafting a law on the Cossacks' rehabilitation, has already prepared the Russian president's draft decrees on the use of land in areas where Cossacks predominently live and on doing military service by Cossacks.

Russian Federation State Adviser Sergey Shakhray, who heads the commission, told IZVESTIYA that the Cossacks' historical traditions were taken into account in solving the issues of the use of land, local self-government and military service. In elaborating the documents, the commission used a host of laws by the Russian empire, which regulated relationships between the Cossacks and the state.

According to Shakhray, the president's decree on doing military service by Cossacks, which should be issued on May 20, envisages restoring Cossacks' regiments in the Russian army. Each Cossacks' region will have its own troop unit and is even ready to bear part of the expenditures on its maintenance. Posts of military chaplains will be introduced in regiments in agreement with the Moscow Patriarchate.

All planned decisions, once they are put into effect, will "help neutralise the attempts by some forces to use the Cossacks' movement for their political purposes," will turn the Cossacks into an ally of the president and the government, the supporter and defender of economic reform, Shakhray believes.

Cossacks were the military estate in the Tsarist Russia. They served in the Russian Army (mostly in the light cavalry) and guarded the state border. As a remuneration, Cossacks received from the government land on the terms of estate ownership. The once-forgotten traditions are now being rapidly revived in areas where Cossacks predominantly live. A package of documents about Cossacks, which is under preparation in the Russian government, is also meant to facilitate this revival.

Single Rate for Ruble To Be Introduced in Jul

LD0505140192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1331 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Petr Tsyrendorzhiyev]

[Text] Moscow, 5 May—A single rate for the ruble for all current operations will be introduced in Russia in the very near future. The republic's government has thus renounced the idea of introducing a special investment rate for the ruble. This was stated at a news conference today by Konstantin Kagalovskiy, plenipotentiary representative of the Russian Federation Government for cooperation with international financial organizations.

It is planned that a floating rate will be introduced in July, and a month later it is anticipated to "fix" it. Observers believe that this decision by the government is directly linked with Russia's entry to the IMF. Konstantin Kagalovskiy said that it will be possible to raise the current inordinately low rate for the ruble by means of "foreign currency interventions" from credits granted.

The total amount of Western credits to Russia this year is expected to be 24 billion U.S. dollars. Of this, 6 billion will go into the international ruble stabilization fund. More than 4 billion dollars will be provided in the form of a rehabilitation loan to support imports. It is envisaged that 2.6 billion will be allocated to defer payments on credits given to the former USSR and 11 billion to bilateral credit agreements.

On the results of the recent trip by a Russian Government delegation to the United States, Konstantin Kagalovskiy recalled that Russia obtained a 3 percent quota [words indistinct] the International Monetary Fund, which represents 4 billion dollars in total. The Russian Government spokesman stressed particularly that "the IMF never imposes its decisions, this organization only recommends." "The West has an interest in political stability in the East and understands that the collapse of the economic reform would be the end of democracy in Russia," he said.

80 Rubles to Dollar Expected

LD0605012392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today, Konstantin Kagalovskiy, adviser to the Russian Government, announced during a briefing that the Government intends to introduce from 1 July a single exchange rate throughout Russia, approximately 80 rubles to one dollar. At first, it will, of course, be floating, and from August it will become fixed.

It is clear that, as a result of this, the ruble will not get any better. But the adviser is looking optimistically to the future of the ruble. Its rate of exchange will rise. The government will do everything to this end, using, by the way, credits from the Group of Seven of the West.

Economic Stabilization Beginning To Show

LD0605083192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The growth of prices in Russia in April began to slow down for the first time after they were set free in

January. Experts say the cost of living went up by 14 percent last month against 36 in March. They believe that one reason why prices are going up slower is that free trade has become more active. Another indicator of a certain stabilization of the economy and finances is a drop in the exchange rate of the dollar against the ruble.

Industrial Paralysis Could Come by Mid-June

MK0505174092 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 5 May 92 p 1

[Article by Svetlana Senina: "Examination in the 'School of Communism'"]

[Text] Andrey Isayev, an expert at the Moscow Federation of Trade Unions, predicts: The trade unions will succeed in paralyzing the whole of industry by mid-June, which will lead to the definitive collapse and elimination of the single geopolitical area in Russia. God forbid that so-desired a finale to the activity of the trade union bosses comes about.

"Trade unions—the school of communism"—these are Lenin's words. "The party's faithful assistant" has today begun to replace it in all respects. I'm referring to those who manipulate millions of people. Whenever I hear I. Klochkov, head of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions, who is often on our television screens, I don't know whether to laugh or cry. Just who is it that is speaking about "the defense of the working people's interests," and presenting the government with ultimatums by threatening it with strikes? Igor Yevgenyevich Klochkov, former Komsomol leader of the Naro-Fominsk Komsomol Gorkom, former first secretary of Naro-Fominsk CPSU Gorkom, former second secretary of Moscow CPSU Obkom. All his life he and his ilk have lived in that "communism" which was built for the separate party elite by the rank-and-file members of the party and the trade union. But the point is not in the positions they have occupied but in the fact that they are continuing in the same spirit.

Today we have a multitude of trade unions. I am not sure that every reader knows which one he is a member of. But the "official" trade unions—the former AUCCTU, and now the Confederation of Trade Unions, and also the Federation of Independent Trade Unions—are carrying out procommunist work.

The teachers have gone on strike. The children's harmonious "hurrah!" is shaking the school classrooms and is an eloquent testimony to the quality of education and upbringing handed out by these strikers.

The perjurers are on strike, having violated the Hippocratic oath. Do the doctors not realize that the refusal to hospitalize angina sufferers is fraught, for example, with complications for the heart? That the refusal of a "planned" operation today threatens to require the emergency intervention of a surgeon tomorrow, and that it may be too late to save the person involved?

The transport workers are threatening to strike. Already in line are the workers of the textile and light industries. The trade unions are skillfully directing the strike movement: So that the greatest possible number of people suffer from the strikes.

Indeed, it is a terrible thing when your wages are not sufficient to buy food. And so it is possible to understand the despair of the teacher and the doctor. But I think the bus drivers get enough. But they too are being made to unceremoniously snatch food from the mouths of their fellow citizens (you and me) to put into their own. Trade union leaders are not worried about the needs of the working people, otherwise they would fight for them by means of sensible negotiations and, together with the collectives, would search for additional sources of income. Their aim is to return the country to the former plan-and-allocation economy, to the power of the party-ocracy for whom the trade unions have always been like pageboys waiting for the crumbs from their master's table.

And our tormented people, having been transformed by them into cattle, obediently enter the stall: Although they beat you whenever they feel like it, at least they feed you! The examinations in the "school of communism" are being passed with flying colors.

Democracy Could Use Private 'Practicians'

MK0505104092 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI in Russian No 18, 3 May 92 p 8

[Article by Valeriy Pisigin: "New Leaders Required"]

[Text] At the concluded Congress of Russia's People's Deputies the following refrain was constantly to be heard: There is no "bloc of practicians" among the reformers in the government. It is maintained that the academic brains of Yegor Gaydar and his team are geared to the solution of macroeconomic tasks and are unable to cope with "real economics," or "micro" economics. On this basis the Russian deputies demanded the appointment of "several major entrepreneurs from among the industrialists" to leadership posts in the government. And the president has let it be understood that such a reinforcement will ensue.

Yet there are, after all, different types of practicians.

There are the old hands of the state-monopoly "enterprise" with their desire to command "the arrangement of horizontal and vertical ties," to gain access to major state orders, and push to the front of the resources lines outside government offices. Once in the government, the state "entrepreneurs" will endeavor to immediately assume the dominating role. In this event the economic reform will immediately be neutralized and the entire reform process risks being returned to the situation of recent years when the goats ate the cabbages as soon as they had grown.

In order for this not to happen, the "bloc of practicians" (if there is a need for it) must include people who have experienced this same practice in the new structures, and not in the state-monopoly structures. I have in mind our own domestic entrepreneurs who are providing alternative production, financial, and trade capital. These are the people who could ensure a favorable balance in the government for the reformers and, as a result, would help society to accelerate the formation of a social base for democratic reforms.

We are not going to start laying complaints at the door of the old party nomenklatura and their spiritual successors—the adherents of the socialist choice. The bureaucracy of the monopolist state could not initiate the creation of a social base against itself. Following their defeat at the top political level, the veterans of the party-economic aktiv have deployed their nomenklatura legions in the provinces, adapting themselves to the process of disintegration and making use of a "drive belt" which is stubbornly turning back the wheels of history by taking the Russian parliament with them.

But it is worth adding to the complaints being made against the other camp. The concluded congress and everything that went on around it showed once again that the current democratic movement with all its parties and blocs is essentially unready to ensure the reforms from a political viewpoint as a primarily creative action. All the support for these reforms on the part of the democrats comes down to support for individual persons in the reformist Olympus, general declarations in support of the "course," and also appeals to "repulse" the reactionaries. Having grown up amid the struggle against the totalitarian system, the present democratic movement was not able to rid itself of its social, ideological, and—what is particularly important—psychological stereotypes. Just as in earlier times the system urgently needed to reproduce emergency situations to intimidate the people, so, for example, Gleb Yakunin or Ilya Zaslavskiy need to reproduce fear of the specter of the system: Only in this event will their appeals be heard and the "social order" ["sotsialnyy zakaz"] for them demanded. And it is no coincidence that, every time "storm clouds gather over the new-born Russian freedom," the platforms, the airwaves, and the press are filled with the heroes of the emergency situation, our Russian "storm petrels".

But now, when people are agonizingly suffering the shock and the government is trying to initiate therapy, is this really the task of shepherds pretending to the title of democrats? Is there any sense at all in such actions? Sense today is born in the free sector of the economy. People employed here, despite all the difficulties of the inflationary period, reject for themselves the road back to the structures of the bankrupt state sector. For them, the rhetorical question whether Russia is ready for democracy does not arise. Their very existence is a democratic alternative gained through suffering which some people are on the one hand trying to destroy, or, on the other hand, arrogantly disregard.

Despite all the moaning about Russia's former might and its "upredictable future," a new life is already under way, new people are emerging, and with them, a new Russia too. Enterprise has already developed fairly extensively. It unites in all about 20 million people, or 40 million including their families. This is a sufficiently substantial stratum in order to create, on the basis of it, a truly democratic movement which is already replacing street democracy. How strange and remote from real life the congress seemed to me, with its clamorous rhetoric and microphone struggle over questions...about nothing at all.

The democracy of words must be followed by the democracy of action. All the floodgates in the economy and politics must finally be opened up for it.

An indispensable condition for democratic reforms is the emergence into the arena of authoritative decisions on the part of the new generation of politicians who give pride of place to the conscientious and competent service of the prosaic interests of the men of enterprise. Neither more nor less.

Gorbachev Press Conference Remarks Cited

PM3004130992 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 92 p 3

[Report by Sergey Svistunov [S.S.]: "...Plus Burbulisization of the Whole Country? Notes from M. Gorbachev's News Conference"]

[Text] Officially, the recent news conference at the headquarters of the Gorbachev Foundation at 55 Leningradskiy Avenue was devoted to the results of its founder's visit to Japan. But after Mikhail Sergeyevich's introductory speech this subject definitely took a back seat. The assembled people took a keener interest in problems of another kind.

So many topics were touched upon and the metamorphoses in Gorbachev's position on key internal political questions are so interesting that it is worthwhile, I believe, letting Mikhail Sergeyevich speak for himself as much as possible in this report. Naturally, with allowances for his distinctive manner of accompanying his criticism with a mass of reservations and stipulations, which sometimes do not just soften his expressions but also cast doubt on them with his own counterarguments.

Journalists tried to get a definite answer out of Mikhail Sergeyevich on this cardinal question: Does Gorbachev intend to continue the skirmish "up above"?

The first and last president of the USSR made it clear that he has not left and does not intend to leave political life. ("That would be immoral on my part"). Does this mean that the possibility of the nomination of his candidacy for the post of president of Russia cannot be ruled out in the future? Gorbachev replied cautiously: "I do not have any such plans. But this does not depend on me." He also cited the ancient Greeks: "All is flux, nothing stays still."

About the Sixth Congress of Russian People's Deputies: "Every night (during the visit to Japan—S.S.) we had to ascertain what was happening at our Congress, what stage it had reached, the seething of passions, and what this promised. By the way, I said quite definitely during the very first days: 'Well, you are simply witnessing manifestations of a still young and stormy democracy, when the parties have not yet been formed nor the interests ascertained.' Therefore passions seethe, and people do say that when something boils furiously, sometimes the truth evaporates. All these are games and maneuvers, to see who will twist whom around his little finger...The Congress is valuable because it is a mirror of our life...I do not make a tragedy out of this Congress-...Society is not a monolith...and we could hardly expect choral works."

About the CIS: "I do not believe in the vitality of this association. But I am continuing to struggle now, as I struggled for the Union, to ensure that the CIS is formed. If not the CIS, let them seek some other form. But this whole world, which has evolved over centuries and which is ethnically, culturally, and humanly linked and interwoven, must...It must not be torn apart, it can be transformed. What is needed for this is structures which would ensure these common interests...It is simply an unaffordable luxury: On questions which cause alarm and concern not only in the country but also throughout the world, to display such a level of politics, such a level of managing things. It is necessary to end cockfights...It is a question of the fulfillment of contractual obligations. Meetings are needed at the high level of the presidents themselves...No one either here or in the world will tolerate another, irresponsible approach."

His opinion of the press: "Somebody needs to fan these flames ("over the CPSU's money"—S.S.). For they do not raise the question of why it has become possible that we can now resolve such questions as reducing the arms race and saving billions, not to mention how to save civilization. For some reason they have already forgotten that the adventure in Afghanistan, which was costing human lives and 5.5 billion rubles a year, was ended. For some reason they do not speak of what is being done within the framework to eliminate the 'cold war.' Or who had a hand in this.

"The only one speaking is extreme reaction, which altogether rejects all the changes but has its own say. The democrats are interesting democrats. It is probably necessary to study this phenomenon too. These on the right are the reaction, and for them Gorbachev, Yakovlev, and Shevardnadze are a clique which has sold out to U.S. imperialism. Or to all imperialism...This same democratic press, having suddenly moved all these topics aside and thus not defending the main areas of the transformations...Someone needs a lightning conductor. It is necessary to divert attention from what could blow up society.

"But no, I look and do not recognize the press, it is all prostrate, all on its knees. It is now time to stand up, time to stand up. Why did we start everything—the democratic process and glasnost?"

What kind of ideology does the former general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee profess now, and what is his attitude to the Russian power today?

In my view, a mini sensation emerged with regard to the first point. The question was like this: "When Boris Yeltsin visited America, he changed his ideological convictions and became a liberal. How has your trip to Japan influenced you, and have you abandoned your socialist convictions or, conversely, confirmed them?"

Gorbachev replied: "No...I am not changing my convictions. I remain devoted to the socialist idea, but in the way I have understood it...For me this was a very crucial path—reinterpretation. It is another matter that you and I still have to think how best to realize this idea now, under the present conditions. I believe that this must be done along the lines of movement toward a new civilization. This is an oversimplified conception: to divide the world—capitalism and socialism, socialism and capitalism." So, a third path?

Gorbachev's reaction to the question "Which of the parties that exist now is closest to you in terms of its views?" was as follows: "The program which I prepared for the CPSU is close to me."

Following a brief excursion into history buried by the August events—in "August the signing of the Union Treaty and the adoption of the anticrisis program, in November the Congress, where I am sure delimitation would have occurred"—Mikhail Sergeyevich summed up: "This program was nicknamed social democratic. I must say precisely this is closer to me. But there is no party that would clearly reflect these political positions, even though there are parties which call themselves social democratic."

On the whole, Mikhail Sergeyevich supported the Russian Government's economic reform, although he pointed to "gross mistakes in implementation" and the need for "serious corrections" and warned against "skipping stages" and against those who "wish all the time to preserve the image of decisive people." "I fear decisive people...They could ruin everything done over the past seven years. Yes, the time for implementing reforms is now shrinking like shagreen leather. It is even necessary to be tough...But not at breakneck speed on horseback, like cowboys...This is a world of 300 million people! Do you know how they interrogated me in Japan? Simply: 'Why are you destroying the state like this?' People in Japan are amazed: 'Do you really believe that there is an unregulated market?' There are no such markets. You, the press, have all the time written a great deal...about the sluggishness of the reforms. I have approached precisely this subject in my memoirs. I will show who the decisive people are and who the horsemen are."

Where are the cowboys capable of driving the human herd? "I see the greatest threat," M.S. Gorbachev voiced

concern, "if the price that the people will have to pay for the reform is unbearable and unacceptable to them."

He expressed a credo with which it is hard to disagree, insisting that "the people not be treated like a herd. They were driven now into collectivization, now into industrialization for a happy life. Now they will be driven either into Burbanisization or somewhere else, again for a happy life."

Military Tensions, Possible Solutions Viewed

OW0605061492 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1800 GMT 4 May 92

[Studio interview with Aleksandr Timerko, chairman of the Committee for the Welfare of Servicemen, by Sergey Goryachev; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Goryachev] Let me introduce our guest: Aleksandr Viktorovich Timerko, chairman of the Committee for the Welfare of Servicemen. Before we start talking, I would like to show to both you and to the viewers a report by Aleksey Shestakov, which he has made especially for our talk.

[Timerko] With pleasure. [passage ommitted]

[Goryachev] I see that you want to make some kind of comment.

[Timerko] You see, this report is an accurate one, it reflects today's social reality, which of course has effected the armed forces as much as anyone else, and maybe even more. The officers polled on the streets were not specially preselected; rather, the selection was random, and the officers' opinions are objective and generally correspond to the those prevailing in the armed forces.

[Goryachev] They talked about pay. What is the pay today of, say, a senior lieutenant or a captain, of someone who is 30 years old or a little more?

[Timerko] You see, it all depends on the job, but the average is about 2,500 rubles.

[Goryachev] This is not really small change, is it? It is not a whole lot but is not so bad compared to other people.

[Timerko] This depends on how you look at it. The thing is, the officer's wife usually does not work, and he has one or two small children whom he must support. As a rule, he has already moved from one or two military towns, and looking realistically he gets no more than 800 rubles, which is about the minimal wage in our country. This is not very high pay if we take into consideration that in some units and military districts, even this pay has been delayed.

[Goryachev] Well, maybe counting the money in someone else's pocket is really not such a good thing. Russia will build its own army, which does not exist yet and therefore cannot disintegrate, as one of the officers said. There is still no such thing as a Russian army.

[Timerko] You are right. As of today, there is no such thing as the Russian armed forces.

[Goryachev] When will they be created?

[Timerko] A state commission for the formation of the Russian armed forces and fleet was created by presidential decree. I am a member of this commission myself, and by 9 May, we plan to submit documents to the president on the creation of the Russian armed forces.

[Goryachev] People are watching us, and I am sure that they expect some information on how Russia plans to assist its army, and what social guarantees, what pay raises, the servicemen of the Russian army will get. Do you have such information, and if so, are you willing to share it?

[Timerko] I cannot outline the concrete measures the Russian Government and president will take to improve the welfare of servicemen in just a few words. But such measures are already being taken. There is the presidential decree dating from 11 February on improving the welfare of servicemen. Recently, their pay has been raised, and of course it will increase even more in the next few months.

[Goryachev] This is a very important point, because everything else you talked about was something that has already happened. We want to hear about what is going to happen.

[Timerko] Apart from this presidential decree, a very important issue has been stipulated. All living quarters built by the local authorities with the partial participation of the Defense Ministry are to be transferred to the armed forces during the next half a year. This means that we will get enough apartments to lower the tension in the armed forces a little. The Russian Government has prepared a decree which directs local administrations and Defense Ministry construction subunits to build housing, which will further alleviate the acute housing problem. According to our recent calculations, we have more than 187,000 officers without apartments. This is a very serious problem.

What is more, we have calculated that the creation of armed forces in Russia and other states will force us to accept about 100,000 officers. These are our people, Russians whom we must provide with housing first and foremost.

[Goraychev] And this is being planned?

[Tinerko] Yes, it is. There are such plans.

[Goryachev] Of course, the government should and probably will act. I am aware that there is a serious concern on the part of the government and the president as to the living conditions of servicemen. But do you not

think that the more far seeing servicemen have already guessed that there will probably be cuts in the army, and that their services would not be needed anymore? They could already be looking for some applications for their talents.

[Timerko] Probably so. But what distinguishes a combat officer is loyalty to his service and the course that he has chosen. Of course, when a person feels like these two officers in the video report, who said that they were disappointed with the military service, that if they had known how things would go they would not have served, would not have graduated from the military academy-...[changes thought] Our committee and the Main Cadre Directorate, headed by a very interesting person, Colonel-General Radionov, has jointly developed a whole program on retraining of servicemen. It is designed to provide as fast and as painless an adaptation to the national economy as possible.

[Goryachev] Where can a serviceman apply if he decides to quit?

[Timerko] He can apply to our committe, or he can apply to the Main Cadre Directorate of the—still—United Armed Forces.

[Goryachev] And it is their duty to help him there?

[Timerko] Yes, it is.

[Goryachev] Our time is running out, so let me ask you a very direct question. Can you promise people that by the end of this year they will feel relief?

[Timerko] I cannot promise people that they will feel relief, but knowing the measures the Russian Federation is taking, I think that certain relief will be felt by the end of this year, and maybe social tension will start to ease off.

[Goryachev] Let us hope so. Thank you.

Operational Investigation Law Issued

PM3004100192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Apr 92 First Edition p 3

[Russian Federation law No. 2506-1: "On Operational Investigation Activity in the Russian Federation"]

[Text] This law defines the content of operational investigation activity carried out on Russian Federation territory and enshrines a system of guarantees of legality in the implementation of operational investigation measures.

Section I. General Provisions

Article 1. Operational investigation activity.

Operational investigation activity is a type of activity carried out, publicly and secretly, by state organs and operational subunits (hereinafter referred to as organs conducting operational investigation activity) authorized by this law within their purview via the implementation of operational investigation measures with a view to protecting the lives, health, rights, and freedoms of the individual, property, and the safety of society and the state from criminal incursions.

Article 2. The tasks of operational investigation activity.

The tasks of operational investigation activity are:

to reveal, prevent, curtail, and uncover crimes, as well as the persons preparing for, committing, or having committed such crimes;

to investigate persons hiding from investigation, prosecution, and court organs, persons evading criminal punishment, and cases of missing persons.

Article 3. The principles of operational investigation activity.

Operational investigation activity is based on the principles of legality, respect for individual rights and freedoms, secrecy [konspiratsiya], and the combination of public and secret principles.

Article 4. The legal basis for operational investigation activity.

The legal basis for operational investigation activity is provided by the RSFSR Constitution, this law, and other Russian Federation laws and legal acts. Organs conducting operational investigation activity issue—within their purview, in accordance with legislation, and by agreement with the Russian Federation Prosecutor's Office and Supreme Court—normative acts regulating the organization and tactics of the implementation of operational investigation measures.

Article 5. Observance of individual rights and freedoms in operational investigation activity.

Operational investigation activity is not permitted for achieving goals and tasks not stipulated by this law.

Persons believing that the actions of an organ conducting operational investigation activity have led to an infringement of their rights and freedoms can lodge a complaint with the superior organ or with the courts.

Persons whose guilt in the commission of a crime has not been proved in the manner prescribed by law and who believe that operational investigation measures have been taken against them are entitled to demand that the organ conducting the operational investigation activity provide information on the nature of the information obtained against them, within the limits permitted by the requirements of secrecy and ruling out the divulging of state secrets. If the information requested should be refused or supplied in incomplete form the person in question is entitled to lodge a judicial complaint. During the court hearing of the case, the burden of demonstrating the justifiability of the decision lies with the relevant organ which carried out the operational investigation activity.

With a view to ensuring full and comprehensive examination of the case, the organ which carried out the operational investigation activity is duty bound, upon a request from the judge, to provide him with operational and service documents containing information on the reports to which the plaintiff was refused access, with the exception of information on persons who have provided confidential assistance to operational investigation measures.

In the event of the decision of the organ which carried out the operational investigation activity to refuse the plaintiff access to the necessary information being deemed unjustifiable, the judge can order the said organ to supply the plaintiff with the information stipulated in part three of this article.

Materials, obtained as a result of operational investigation activity, relating to persons whose guilt in the commission of a crime has not been proved in the manner prescribed by law shall be stored for one year and then destroyed, unless the execution of service duties or the requirements of justice demand otherwise. Three months before destruction of the documents reflecting the results of operational investigation measures conducted with the prosecutor's sanction, notification of such destruction shall be provided by the relevant prosecutor.

Organs (officials) carrying out operational investigation activity are forbidden to undertake actions in the interests of any political party; or to secretly participate in the work of organs of representative or judicial power, as well as public associations or religious organizations registered under the procedure laid down by law, with a view to influencing the nature of their activity.

Should the organ (official) carrying out the operational investigation activity infringe the rights and legitimate interests of individuals or corporate bodies, a superior organ, prosecutor, or judge is obliged to take measures to restore these rights and legitimate interests and pay damages in accordance with Russian Federation legislation.

Operational investigation activity carried out in breach of this law shall be liable to prosecution under Russian Federation legislation.

Section II. Implementation of Operational Investigation Measures

Article 6. Operational investigation measures.

Operational investigation measures shall only be carried out when it is not possible to carry out the tasks envisaged by Article 2 of this law in any other way.

In order to resolve these tasks, organs carrying out operational investigation activity shall, in compliance with secrecy regulations:

1) interrogate citizens;

2) make inquiries;

3) collect specimens for comparative investigation;

4) make control purchases;

5) investigate articles and documents;

6) conduct surveillance;

7) determine identity;

8) monitor premises, buildings, installations, local sites, and means of transport;

9) monitor the mail;

10) censor convicts' correspondence;

11) tap telephone and other conversations;

12) take information from technical communications channels.

The actions laid down by part two of this article shall be implemented by carrying out operational investigation measures. The list of these actions is exhaustive and can be changed or amended only by law.

During the implementation of operational investigation measures information systems, video and audio recordings, film, stills photographs, and other technical means can be employed, providing they do not harm the life and health of individuals or the environment.

Officials from organs carrying out operational investigation activity resolve its tasks by personally participating in the organization and implementation of operational investigation measures and by availing themselves of assistance from officials and specialists with scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge, and from individual citizens with their consent on a public or secret basis.

The organization and tactics of operational investigation measures shall be a state secret.

Article 7. The basis for the implementation of operational investigation measures.

The following form the basis for the implementation of operational investigation measures:

1) the existence of a criminal case;

2) information which has come to the attention of the organs carrying out the operational investigation activity:

on illegal action that is being prepared, is being committed, or has been committed and for which a preliminary investigation is obligatory, when there is no information on the elements of the crime;

on persons hiding from investigation, prosecution, and court organs, or evading criminal punishment;

on missing persons and the discovery of unidentified corpses.

3) instructions from an investigating officer, directives from a prosecutor, or court rulings on criminal cases within their charge;

4) requests from other organs carrying out operational investigation activity on the grounds indicated in this article;

5) requests from international law enforcement organizations and foreign states' law enforcement organs under treaties (agreements) on legal aid.

Organs carrying out operational investigation activity are also entitled within their purview to collect the information on individual citizens necessary for decisions to be made:

1) on access to information constituting a state secret, or to work involving the use of installations representing an increased environmental hazard;

2) on access to participation in operational investigation activity or access to materials obtained as a result of its implementation. This provision shall not extend to judges and prosecutors.

3) in connection with the provision of assistance in the preparation and implementation of operational investigation measures;

4) on the issuing of permits for private detective and security activity.

Article 8. Conditions for the implementation of operational investigation measures.

The citizenship, ethnic origins, sex, place of residence, social standing, wealth [imushchestvennoye polozheniye], membership of public associations, attitude to religion, and political convictions of individuals shall present no obstacle to the implementation of operational investigation measures against them on Russian Federation territory, unless the law stipulates otherwise.

The implementation of operational investigation measures affecting the privacy, guaranteed by law, of correspondence, telephone and other conversations, and telegraphic communications, as well as the right to the inviolability of the residence shall be permitted solely for the collection of information on persons preparing for or attempting serious crimes, or who are committing or have committed serious crimes, and only with the sanction of a prosecutor (on the basis of a reasoned resolution from one of the leaders of the relevant organ carrying out the operational investigation activity). The list of categories of such leaders shall be laid down by departmental normative acts. And surveillance of residential premises shall be permitted in exceptional cases and only with the sanction of the prosecutor of a republic within the Russian Federation, kray, oblast, or other prosecutors enjoying such powers.

In urgent cases which could lead to an act of terrorism or sabotage, the implementation of the operational investigation measures listed in part two of this article shall be permitted on the basis of a reasoned conclusion from a leader of a relevant organ involved in operational investigation activity, provided that the appropriate prosecutor is immediately notified and sanction subsequently obtained within 24 hours.

In the event of a threat to the life, health, or property of individuals, and on application from them or with their written consent, taps on their telephones or other means of conversation may be permitted on the basis of a resolution ratified by the leader of the organ conducting the operational investigation activity, with obligatory notification being given to the relevant prosecutor within 24 hours.

During the implementation of operational investigation measures on the grounds stipulated by Paragraphs 1-4 of the second part of Article 7, the implementation of the actions stipulated in Paragraphs 8-12 of the second part [as published] of Article 6 of this law shall be forbidden.

Operational investigation measures to safeguard the security of internal affairs organs, security organs, and Foreign Intelligence Service organs shall be carried out in the manner stipulated by the aforesaid departments' normative acts.

Article 9. Operational checks.

Once the grounds stipulated by Paragraphs 1-3 of the first part of Article 7 of this law have been established, organs carrying out operational investigation activity are entitled to conduct operational checks. The fact that such checks are being carried out must be recorded without fail.

Operational checks shall be conducted with the permission and under the control of the leader of the organ carrying out the checks. The results of operational investigation measures shall be reflected in official operational documents and systematized.

Official operational documents should be submitted to the prosecutor during a prosecutor's inspection or in order to obtain a sanction for the implementation of operational investigation measures.

Operational checks shall be curtailed in the event of the specific tasks of operational investigation activity stipulated in Article 2 of this law being resolved, or if facts are established which point to the objective impossibility of resolving these tasks.

Article 10. Utilization of the results of operational investigation activity.

The results of operational investigation activity can be utilized in preparing and conducting investigative actions and in conducting operational investigation measures to prevent, curtail, and uncover crimes, and as proof in

criminal cases once such results have been checked in accordance with the law of criminal procedure.

Materials produced by operational checks do not constitute a basis for limiting the rights and legitimate interests of physical and legal persons.

Section III. Organs Conducting Operational Investigation Activity

Article 11. Organs Conducting operational investigation activity.

On Russian Federation territory the right to conduct operational investigation activity shall be granted to:

1) Russian Federation internal affairs organs;

2) Russian Federation Security Ministry organs;

3) border guards organs;

4) the Russian Federation Foreign Intelligence Service;

5) operational subunits of the Main Administration for the Protection of the Russian Federation.

The list of organs conducting operational investigation activity can only be altered or amended by law.

Organs conducting operational investigation activity resolve their tasks independently, in conjunction with each other, and with help from citizens.

Article 12. Duties of organs conducting operational investigation activity.

When resolving the tasks of operational investigation activity set by this law, the organs authorized to conduct such activity are obliged:

1) to take all necessary measures within their purview to protect the individual rights and freedoms safeguarded by the law, property, and the security of society and the state;

2) to execute written instructions from investigating officers, directives from prosecutors, or court rulings on the implementation of operational investigation measures within their purview;

3) to fulfill, on the basis of treaties (agreements) on legal aid, requests from corresponding international law enforcement organizations and foreign states' law enforcement organs;

4) to inform other organs conducting operational investigation activity on Russian Federation territory of known cases of illegal activity falling within those organs' purview, and to provide them with the necessary assistance;

5) to observe secrecy regulations in conducting operational investigation activity;

6) to promote the safeguarding of personal security and the safekeeping of property belonging to their staffers, their family members and relatives, and participants in judicial proceedings, their family members, and their relatives from criminal and other illegal incursions.

In order to properly carry out their service duties officials at organs conducting operational investigation activity should be provided with the conditions for obtaining specialized professional training, improving their qualifications, and receiving medical services.

Article 13. Rights of organs conducting operational investigation activity.

When resolving the tasks of operational investigation activity, organs authorized to carry out such activity are entitled:

1) to conduct publicly or secretly the operational investigation actions listed in Article 6 of this law;

2) to establish on a free or fee-paying basis relations of cooperation with persons agreeing to provide assistance on a confidential basis to organs conducting operational investigation activity;

3) to set up and utilize information systems ensuring the resolution of the tasks of operational investigation activity;

4) to utilize during operational investigation measures by written or oral agreement the official premises and property of enterprises, institutions, organizations, and military units, as well as housing and other premises, means of transport, and other property belonging to individuals;

5) to utilize, with a view to preserving secrecy, documents which use a code to disguise the identity of officials, the departmental affiliation of the subunits, organizations, premises, and means of transport belonging to organs conducting operational investigation activity, as well as the identity of citizens cooperating with these organs on a confidential basis.

Officials are not entitled to impede the implementation of operational investigation activity by the organs indicated in this law within their purview.

Article 14. Social and legal protection for the officials of organs conducting operational investigation activity.

Officials at organs conducting operational investigation activity are covered by the guarantees of legal and social protection afforded employees of those organs on whose staff they are included.

Nobody is entitled to interfere in the legitimate activities of officials and organs conducting operational investigation activity, apart from persons directly authorized thereto by law. It is forbidden to assess their work on the basis of quantitative indicators of the results of operational investigation activity.

During the implementation of operational investigation measures officials authorized to implement operational

investigation activity are subordinate solely to their immediate and direct superiors. If orders or instructions are received which contravene the law, officials are obliged to be guided by the law, and if they have grounds to believe that as a result of the execution of the order or instructions a crime may or may have been committed, they must report it to the superior organ or to the prosecutor's office.

Section IV. Citizens' Assistance to Organs Conducting Operational Investigation Activity

Article 15. Citizens' assistance to organs conducting operational investigation activity.

With their consent, individuals can be enlisted to prepare or conduct operational investigation measures while, if they wish, retaining confidentiality in their cooperation with the organs conducting operational investigation activity, including under contract. These persons must keep secret the information which has become known to them in the course of preparing or conducting operational investigation measures and must not provide these organs with information they know to be false.

The organs conducting operational investigation activity may conclude contracts with adult and responsible people irrespective of their citizenship, nationality, sex, social, official, and property status, education, membership of public associations, and political and religious convictions.

The organs conducting operational investigation activity are not allowed to use confidential assistance on a contract basis from people's deputies, judges, prosecutors, attorneys, priests, or fully empowered representatives of officially registered religious associations.

Article 16. Social and legal protection of citizens assisting organs conducting operational investigation activity.

Person who assist organs conducting operational investigation activity are under the state's protection.

When a real threat arises of an illegal attempt on the life, health, or property of individuals in connection with their assistance to organs conducting operational investigation activity and equally of members of their families and those close to them, these organs must take the necessary steps to prevent illegal actions, identify the culprits, and charge them.

Information about people who are cooperating or who have cooperated with organs conducting operational investigation activity on a confidential basis are a state secret and can be made public only with those people's written consent or in other cases directly envisaged by the law.

People who cooperate with organs conducting operational investigation activity have the right to receive a reward.

The state guarantees to people who have declared their agreement to assist on a contract basis the organs conducting operational investigation activity that it will fulfill its commitments stipulated by the contract.

The period of citizens' cooperation under contract with the organs conducting operational investigation activity is included in their work record as their main type of employment. These people have the right to a pension in accordance with existing legislation.

With a view to ensuring the safety of people who cooperate under contract with organs conducting operational investigation activity and of the members of their families, it is permitted to implement special measures to protect them within the procedure laid down by the Russian Federation Government.

In the event of the death of a person cooperating under contract with organs conducting operational investigation activity in connection with his participation in the implementation of operational investigation measures, the family of the deceased and his dependents are paid a lump-sum grant from the funds of the relevant budget equal to 10 times the deceased's annual salary and a pension for the loss of a breadwinner is assigned within the procedure laid down by the law.

When a person cooperating under contract with organs conducting operational investigation activity receives injuries which are the result of a wound, contusion, or mutilation arising in connection with his participation in conducting operational investigation measures and making further cooperation for him impossible, he is paid from the funds of the relevant budget a lump-sum grant equal to five years' salary and is assigned an invalidity pension within the procedure laid down by the law.

Section V. Financial Backup for Operational Investigation Activity

Article 117. Financial backup for operational investigation activity.

The Russian Federation ministries and departments empowered to conduct operational investigation activity are allocated for the purpose of financial assets which are spent within the procedure laid down by the Russian Federation president. The monitoring of the expenditure of financial assets allocated for operational investigation activity is implemented by the leaders of these ministries and departments and also by representatives of the Russian Federation Ministry of Finances specially empowered for the purpose.

Section VI. Monitoring and Supervision of Operational Investigation Activity

Article 18. Parliamentary control.

The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet's monitoring of operational investigation activity and the expenditure of

the financial assets allocated for the purpose is implemented by the relevant committees of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. The organs conducting operational investigation activity must supply them with information irrespective of its degree of secrecy, except for information about people who have rendered or are rendering confidential assistance to these organs.

Article 19. Prosecutor's Office supervision.

Supervision of the execution of laws when conducting operational investigation measures and of the legality of the decisions made in the process is implemented by the Russian Federation General Prosecutor and the prosecutors under his subordination.

Article 20. Departmental control.

The leaders of the organs conducting operational investigation activity bear personal responsibility for legality when organizing and conducting operational investigation measures.

[signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin, Moscow, House of the Russian Soviets, 13 March 1992.

PRAVDA Editor Cited on Debt Problems

LD0505140292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today is Press Day, and although this date apparently is only to be found on the old calendars it is hard to abandon the traditions of many years. Moreover, it would be a shame for our brother journalists to be left without a professional day. All the best and a ready pen to our colleagues! However, there is a newspaper, perhaps the only one today, which has officially marked both Press Day and its own round-figure anniversary.

[Correspondent A. Peslyak] All the 80 years of the pioneer of our press have inevitably had their ups and downs. The flagship has been trapped in ice, it has escorted convoys of information in accordance with the party line. Up to October 1917 the newspaper was closed down 13 times. After the latest time, how are they on the anniversary? Indebted?

[PRAVDA editor Seleznev] We are indeed living in debt, on bank credit. Unfortunately, we are having to do three issues a week instead of six, with only four pages, not six or eight. On the other hand, everything is, as they say, beneficial: we are learning to live under the new conditions, learning, so to speak, not to live off anyone but to be independent.

[Peslyak] The print-run of PRAVDA today is almost 1.4 million. Each issue brings a loss of 1 million [currency not given] at current prices. The number of people creating PRAVDA has been cut by one-third - there are 50 correspondents in the country and 10 abroad. Could one say that none of the current parties, be it Communist, Workers', or Socialist or any other outlook, has any influence at all on you?

[Seleznev] No, you know, no party has any influence on us at all. It is another matter that since the, so to speak, front of the left effectively gets no attention today from television or radio, PRAVDA therefore perhaps more than the other papers prints material relating to the movement of the left, the left-wing parties. Once they are set up and organized and so on we think it our duty.

[Peslyak] Those at PRAVDA are ready to go through with a divorce from "PRAVDA Press" publishers, which is treating Yeltsin's decree one-sidedly, even speculatively, in Seleznev's words.

[Seleznev] We are all legally registered and we are asking for a full settlement, and this is being asked for by us and KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, RABOTNITSA, and KRESTYANKA, all the newspapers and magazines which there were here.

[Peslyak] Yes, it is difficult at PRAVDA and hard for many of our reporters, journalists, and commentators, which is something which was talked about the day before yesterday, Free Press Day. Many are risking not only their pay but their lives, particularly in the hot spots.

Congress of People's Deputies

Parties Oppose Dissolution of Congress

LD0505151692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1447 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS—President Yeltsin's recent statement that the Congress of People's Deputies should be "disbanded" and that signatures should be collected, demanding a referendum on the new Constitution, leaving "no place" for the Congress, has triggered a negative reaction among many Russian political parties, some of which are by no means opposed to the present administration.

It is common knowledge that in his reconciliatory speech, delivered on the last day of the 6th Congress of People's Deputies, Yeltsin called for a compromise between the executive and legislative branches of power, saying that any referendums were untimely at present. The diametrically opposite statements he made during his recent tour of some northern regions came as a surprise to many politicians, including his supporters.

"What we are witnessing now, has the resemblance of tactical manoeuvres. During the Congress, obviously pressed by circumstances, he made some statements, which do not fully correspond to the president's covert stand," Chairman of the Board of the Free Russia People's Party Vasiliy Lipitskiy told ITAR-TASS.

"Deeply regrettable is Yeltsin's statement that the Congress should be dissolved, since it came from man No. 1 in this country, whose duty is to guarantee the observance of the law and the Constitution," he added.

Lipitskiy said his party, among the largest in Russia and led by Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy, was opposed to the idea of referendums. "Stability is now a precondition for the success of the reforms, but not abrupt turns and sharp changes in policy. They will inevitably split up our society, instead of ensuring the needed consolidation," Lipitskiy said.

The Political Council of the Democratic Party of Russia released a statement today, expressing its conviction that "any referendum will objectively tend to torpedo the economic reform. The current difficult economic situation, the DPR [Democratic Party of Russia] believes, will be used to whip up anti-government campaigns under populist slogans. A referendum will increase confrontation in our society. The DPR believes it is necessary to "safeguard society from attempts to draw its citizens into another spiral of meeting passions".

The president's statement triggered a stormy reaction among the opposition. Mikhail Astafiyev, who heads the Constitutional Democratic Party and is a leader of the "Russian Unity" opposition bloc of rightists and leftists, formed during the Congress of People's Deputies, told ITAR-TASS that the opposition received Yeltsin's statements as a "call for unconstitutionally altering the state system". In light of this, it is discussing the possibility of applying to the Constitutional Court. The president's demarche, he believes, "shows that he cannot be trusted, that he has no consistent political line".

The International Movement for Democratic Reforms has recently objected bluntly to the holding of referendums. The idea has also failed to find support among the republicans and social-democrats.

Hence, the idea of holding a referendum, and even several referendums, including one on the land issue, today enjoys all-out support only from the "Democratic Russia" movement, which is the most ardent advocate and mastermind of this campaign, as well as, to some measure, from the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms. However, it seems possible that "Democratic Russia" will be able to collect the required million signatures.

Yeltsin Criticism of Congress Examined

PM0505135792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 92 pp 1, 4

[Feature incorporating Nikita Nikolayev report and Boris Slavin account of remarks by S. Baburin and R. Kosolapov under general heading: "Is the Guard Tired Already?"]

[Text] In his concluding speech at the Sixth Congress of Russian People's Deputies, which concluded its work quite recently, our president solemnly declared that any desire to dethrone the Congress and the Supreme Soviet—the top constitutional organs of the country's legislative power—"opens a direct road to political extremism and leads into an impasse." He also said that attempts to repudiate Russia's existing organs of representative power are "an extreme that could explode the unstable equilibrium of Russian statehood." Law-abiding Russian citizens had not had time to comprehend what had been said and to voice solidarity, so to speak, in their perception of these undoubted truths before they heard something completely different from the same high-ranking lips.

To judge from B.N. Yeltsin's speech to Cherepovets metallurgists, it turns out that the Congress of Russian People's Deputies is "a big talking shop, where little is decided." That the Congress was conceived in the past only in order to elect the USSR president and that, since the president does not, unfortunately, have it within his power to disband this "talking shop," he proposes collecting 1 million voters' signatures in favor of holding a referendum on the new constitution, in which there will no longer be a place for the Congress.

In short, as the legendary sailor Zheleznyak once put it on dissolving the Constituent Assembly, "the guard is tired."

During the May Day demonstration PRAVDA Observer Boris Slavin put one question to various politicians: "How do you assess B. Yeltsin's statement on the Congress of People's Deputies?" He got the following replies.

S. Baburin: Probably just that statement made me approach the rostrum in Red Square today and speak. It has to be said that, if circles behind the president are pushing him toward a coup d'etat, the people of Russia must take all necessary measures to continue the constitutional path of our reforms... If the president is unable today to detach himself from the antipeople, antimarket, and antiscientific course, the opposition will have every opportunity to form a government of public confidence and to nominate its own candidates for the presidency in new elections.

R. Kosolapov: It is a strange statement and, at the same time, a natural one. It shows that, under bourgeois rule, the contradiction between legislative power and executive power is resolved in favor of executive power, i.e. in favor of rigid bourgeois dictatorship.

Congress Showed Body 'Has Become Obsolete'

LD0505182192 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 5 May 92

[Commentary by Vitaliy Gurov]

[Text] During his stay in the northern city of Cherepovets late last week and meeting with metalmakers, the Russian President Yeltsin appeared to make the first unambiguous statement against the Russian Congress of People's Deputies. He said that voters themselves may

collect 1 million signatures to hold a referendum on a new constitution, which will have only the president and parliament and no Congress of People's Deputies, the extended Russian Parliament. Commentary is by Vitaliy Gurov.

No doubt these words by the president could be considered as a kind of reaction to the results of the congress that completed two weeks ago. The main thing is not that the congress, as observers believe, ended in a draw since neither the radical supporters of the reforms nor their opponents had won victory. Still, the two-week activities of the congress have shown this body has become obsolete. One of the congress' results was that Boris Yeltsin that recently tended to the tactics of compromises has shown the road of radicalism which is so typical of him. It is interesting that the Cherepovets statement seemed to become a surprise for the most close people surrounding the president. Shortly before that, Sergey Shakhray, President Yeltsin's aide, said there were two types of presidents. Those of the first type head the government and the movement of reforms, others are guarantors of the state's stability. Presidents of the first type, said Sergey Shakhray, appeal to the people, while the leaders of the second type act silently even though they have to explain their actions from time to time. I think, said Sergey Shakhray, our president has chosen the second model. But that was his mistake, since Boris Yeltsin has appealed to the people and he repeatedly warned about that.

The Russian president has faced a dilemma, either to save the reform in Russia or to follow those forces who move neither forward nor backward but sideward. President Yeltsin has chosen the right time for his statement. People understand that the country is living through a crucial moment of its history. It's moving from totalitarianism and administering in the economy to the normal market relations, and they are ready to wait so that they themselves, not only the generations to come, could live better. This seems to be the reason that the Russian president's rating is so high among the Muscovites. As compared to March, it has risen 22 grades and constitutes 64 percent. Life has become more difficult, but there is hope that may be destroyed by the forces ruling in the recent past. But regretfully these forces constitute the bulk of the present extended parliament. This explains Boris Yeltsin's determination to appeal to the people for support in adopting a new constitution which would be based on the principles of a presidential republic and on the strict division of powers among the legislative, executive and judicial powers. Will it bring about a new confrontation or consolidation? Let's wait and see.

Baburin Comments on Resignation Question

MK2404125592 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Apr 92 p 2

[Vladimir Zorich report under "Opposition" rubric: "'Russian Unity' No Lover of Kozyrev. And It Is Assembling a New Union"]

[Text] "We will probably burn in hell because we failed to put to the congress the question of the president's resignation: By 'abolishing' the Soviet Union within the space of an hour he trampled on the Constitution. We did not do this for the sake of civil peace in society. It may be that we made a mistake." This was stated yesterday by Sergey Baburin at a news conference. However, in Baburin's opinion Yeltsin has a chance to make amends: He has only to facilitate (or at least not impede) the "left-right" opposition's efforts to revive the unified state.

As we know, the congress preserved in the Russian Constitution the call for the creation of a new Union. The "Russian Unity" parliamentary bloc believes this to be sufficient grounds for drafting a new Union treaty. "We are sending out telegrams. And we already have replies from potential participants," the "sovereign cadet" Mikhail Astafyev announced. It turned out that responses had been received from the parliaments of South Ossetia, Gagauzia, and the Dniester region, and that a cable is probably en route from the Crimea. The regions of greater stability and the former Union republics have not reacted to the call ("As yet," Astafyev remarked optimistically).

However, the unitarians' dislike for the chief "destroyers" of the country—Yeltsin, Burbulis, and Gaydar—has now assumed a sufficiently peaceable nature. Having failed in its attempts to bring down the present cabinet and the "eminence grise"—Burbulis—personally, the opposition has selected a more accessible target for its next protracted bombardment: Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Kozyrev. He is accused of excessive pliability toward Japan and the United States and "a policy of total betrayal of all Russia's allies" (especially in Africa and Asia).

For the time being the patriots are not naming their own candidate for Kozyrev's chair. Just as they are refusing to announce at least the proposed composition of the alternate economic team which they have been threatening us with for some time now. According to Baburin, "shadow cabinets" are an attribute of a parliamentary republic. But if we have agreed to a presidential republic, then we must wait for the president himself to turn to us for advice on whom to appoint to the government. Until such times, "it makes no sense to create 'shadow cabinets'—they will not achieve power anyway." As the patriots maintain, they have candidacies for all the ministerial posts—right as far as prime minister. This, however, raises doubts: Common sense suggests that it would be more logical for a legal opposition to propagandize an alternate team than to shroud it in darkness. It is known, however, that at the congress itself the "rightists" were ready to agree to the proposal of their "red" comrades and nominate Tuleyev for premier. Now, though, they are holding talks with the governor of Sakhalin, Valentin Fedorov. The degree of seriousness of the discussion, however, has not as yet been established.

Political Shifts in Congress Aftermath Viewed

MK0505072592 Moscow KOMMERSANT in Russian No 17, 20-27 Apr 92 pp 1, 20

[Parliamentary observer Maksim Sokolov article: "What Is Ours Is Ours, and as for What Is Yours, We'll Talk About That Later"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] At the conclusion of the Sixth Congress of Russian Federation People's Deputies Boris Yeltsin expressed his displeasure to the gathering, and for the last time offered peace to the parliament. In the near future the opposition will probably reinforce its uncompromising stance, the government will start implementing Yeltsin's model for the division of powers without prior arrangement, and the leadership of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet will retreat to previously prepared positions and bargain for concessions. The results of the congress are summed up by KOMMERSANT's parliamentary observer Maksim Sokolov.

At the end of the congress the opposition hinted that the referendum on confidence in the congress may also be used for parallel elections to an all-Union Constituent Assembly. Last year, to Gorbachev's chagrin, Yeltsin effected the "interception of the plebiscite" ["perekhvat plebistsita"], but when the opposition threatened to carry out the same maneuver the president saw this as "the creation of a basis for a second power in Russia"—and rejected the idea of a referendum so that he would not find himself in Gorbachev's position of having outsmarted himself. The evident weakness of both opponents—both the "hard-liners" and the Supreme Soviet leadership—facilitated the decision not to take matters to extremes.

The former are not up to the role of "his majesty's opposition," as they refuse on principle to present a shadow cabinet and program, persisting in playing the role of sheer subverters. This puts off the moderate people who are worried that the "Whites" and the "Reds" are united merely by a common hatred of Yeltsin, and that if they overthrow the government, they will immediately fall out among themselves. The ruination of the opposition also lies in the contradiction between the end—to create a powerful statehood—and the means—parliamentary intrigue in the spirit of the worst traditions of the French Fourth Republic, provoking government reshuffles and weakening statehood in every possible way. Khasbulatov's team has found itself in a vacuum: The president cannot forgive the speaker his "attempts to crush the government"; for the opposition, Khasbulatov is still alien—it regards the speaker's attacks on the government as a complete farce that he is playing out together with the president. Assessing the results of the congress, Khasbulatov said: "A wound has been inflicted on the entire state power"—but a wounded speaker can be more easily forced to make concessions.

Rejecting battle, Yeltsin preferred talks, and half an hour before the end of the congress he offered the Supreme Soviet peace terms: Parliament ratifies the structure of the cabinet and the candidate for the post of premier, participates in consultations on the formation of the cabinet, and has the right to call ministers to account, but the president nevertheless has the last word. In exchange, the president requires that the Supreme Soviet put an end to the practice of interfering in the sphere of competence of the executive power and cease its attempts to create parallel power structures of the soviet type. It is noteworthy that Yeltsin only used the term "Supreme Soviet," but he did not speak of the congress as such at all: Apparently the fate of the assembly has been resolved, because at the session of the Supreme Soviet Presidium 23 April even Khasbulatov spoke of the possibility of adopting a new Constitution by means of a referendum, and 24 April, in an interview with the German news agency DPA, the speaker sharply criticized the two-tier system of "congress-Supreme Soviet." Both the congress as an institution and the opposition have seemingly been withdrawn from the game, whereas the government and the Supreme Soviet, conversely, are resuming their precongress games: The government is once again beginning to forge ahead regardless, while Khasbulatov is again complaining about the inhumanity of the IMF. Admittedly, the difference from the precongress situation is that the cabinet and the Supreme Soviet have changed places: The former is now on the offensive, while the latter is defending itself with all its might.

Discussion of Land Reform, Education Examined

PM0505150692 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 May 92 p 2

[Interview with P.Ya. Kiriy, chairman of the board of the "Cheburgolskoye" Collective Agricultural Enterprise in Krasnodar Kray, by G. Moiseyeva, under the rubric "Sixth Congress: Summing Up"; place and date not given: "Distributing the Land Is Not Difficult, Educating Its Owners Is Harder"]

[Text] The name of Petr Yakovlevich Kiriy, chairman of the board of the "Cheburgolskoye" Collective Agricultural Enterprise, is familiar to our readers, and his thoughts on the situation in agriculture have been published in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA before. In Krasnodar Kray, where P.Ya. Kiriy lives and works, he has the reputation of a man who is committed to radical reforms in the countryside, and he is successfully putting his ideas into practice at "Cheburgolskoye." The editorial office asked P.Ya. Kiriy how he views the results of the Sixth Congress of Russian Federation People's Deputies, whether the Congress met the expectations of rural working people, or whether, as before, it left questions and problems unresolved.

[Kiriy] I cannot say too little attention was devoted to the agrarian sector at the Congress. Whatever else you may say, there was more than enough talk about agriculture and land. But unfortunately the talk was more political than concrete and practical, and in the end it all came down to one thing—whether or not to permit

private ownership of land. However, resolving this question does not in itself remove the numerous problems.

The Congress did not adopt the amendment to the Constitution. In my view this is only a postponement, sooner or later it will be necessary all the same to come back to the land ownership problem. But what if we suppose that the amendment had met with support? Even then things would not be as simple as it appears at first glance. It is not only a question of redistributing the land, but of giving it back its strength and ensuring that it begins once again to justify the idea that was established long ago—of the land as provider. And here the most important thing is—whose hands will it fall into?

I am convinced that however we may tackle this problem, the crux of the matter is that the land should belong to those who know how to work it. Recently there have been frequent references in the press to Stolypin's [1906] reforms, which I think do indeed contain much that is instructive for us. What did Stolypin rely on, what did he count on in his reforms? On the strong owner, or, as they used to say then, the sound owner, the strong individual.

The result? It is well known now: Russia was swamped with grain.

I myself and many of my fellow leaders of agricultural enterprises are mainly worried about the fact that we simply cannot seem to get rid of a habit that has eaten its way into us over a period of more than 70 years, the habit of smashing things up recklessly and plunging from one extreme to the other.

Let us not be disingenuous. All of us who work on the land know very well that had the old system gone on any longer, very soon the kolkhozes and sovkhozes would have been unable to feed themselves, let alone the whole country. And however much you give to agriculture in subsidies, it is like pouring water into a bottomless barrel—no use at all. That is a fact. And there is no escaping it.

That is why I advocate a natural process, the reform of not so much the form as the essence of the existing relations. When was the peasant ever an owner? People often talk about the prerevolutionary period. But in those days you had landowners [pomeshchiki]. It is better to say nothing at all about the years after the revolution—nothing but slogans, no question of any real sense of ownership. The owner is whoever controls the disposal of the output that is produced. And that is the main question today. However much talk there may be about problems relating to the land, if things are to get moving two conditions are essential—a clearly expressed attitude to property, and the development of personal interest.

As for the second condition, this is comparatively simple and clear. At "Cheburgolskoye" we have adopted the principle of paying people on the basis of the selling price, and so there you have it, personal interest. The milkmaids no longer come to me and say, look, our working day starts at eight in the morning, so we can't start feeding the stock earlier than that.

The first condition is more difficult, the question of the attitude to property. Property means animals, equipment, and premises. Whose is all this? It is common property, collective property, and that means it is not mine. For many years, beginning with collectivization, the livestock, the tractors—all this is not my property. It is no easy task to change these psychological distortions in people's minds. At the same time, if we demand the restoration of justice we must recognize that the people are not to blame for the fact that it so happened that they lumped us all together, took away our property, and forced us into kolkhozes, and that we lost the sense of ownership of the land. But trying to resolve the ownership question at a stroke can only exacerbate an already difficult situation.

There was much talk at the Congress, for instance, of private farming. But on many farms, I will tell you frankly, you can see a kind of simplistic approach, once again they do things in order to "score points." It is ridiculous—allocating 40 hectares to someone, marking off this land with barbed wire, so to speak, and calling it a private farm. This is an insult to the individual and the industry. We have embarked on a different path, a gradual path. Through family contracts and leasing, we have unraveled one tangle after another. And finally we have arrived at the denationalization and privatization of the sovkhoz, and now we call ourselves the "Cheburgolskoye" Collective Agricultural Enterprise. But the name is not the point.

On our farm everything has been distributed, and collective share ownership has emerged. Each worker has his share, and he can at any time, with the help of the computer, clarify or find out how much he has accumulated in dividends.

However, in allocating 5.2 hectares of land to each worker we did not embark on a course of fragmentation, but on the initiative of the "landowners" themselves the land is amalgamated for joint cultivation. Without any kind of pressure, I repeat, on their own initiative.

I think the sound logic of life is in evidence here. After all, let us be frank: At the moment many private farmers (especially on large farms) are such in name only, they have neither the funds nor the experience to conduct their affairs completely autonomously. At the moment the farmer still needs the collective farm. After working on these terms, under this system, for two, three, or maybe five years, he will have accumulated the necessary initial capital, he will be able to buy a tractor and equipment from the kolkhoz, and then at last he will become autonomous. If he wants to divide himself off from the main farm, so be it, God grant him health, and he can work within the Association of Private Farms. The need to create these associations of private farms is obvious, all world practice confirms it.

Given this approach, the very thrust of the activity of the farm board and specialists changes direction (we have seen this for ourselves). In our case, the farmers tackle all the organizational matters, they make their own calculations and their own decisions on what to do and how. It is up to the farm to provide help with financial and economic matters. We sit at the conference table: Fuel costs so much, maintenance of equipment so much. The cost of fertilizers is so much. Those are your direct costs. Plus the price on the market. The farmer buys from us 50-60 percent of the sale price. In addition, we grant the farmer the right to hire temporary, seasonal, or permanent workers on the basis of agreements and contracts. On what basis they are to work, how many hours—they must reach agreement on all this. At the moment these questions are ignored in legislation, but life is raising them and we have to tackle them at our own risk.

Thus everything is on a contract basis, everything is out in the open, we do not dictate our will. The only point we insist on is that the farmers' income should not account for all 100 percent of the proceeds from output sales. Because there are the schools, kindergartens, the social sector, which have to be maintained. And in principle we have an accord with the farmers on this score. They agree that these are necessary costs.

Another point—the farmer's legal and social protection. Today the farmer who operates entirely autonomously has absolutely no protection. They say he has the protection of the law. But just you try and make sure the law is fulfilled. Our farmers can go to the farm lawyer, and the lawyer or I myself will tackle their problems.

We have set up a compensation fund, or risk fund, on the farm, and out of this fund we always guarantee to help a farmer if the crop fails or some other disaster strikes. And again, everything is done openly. If it is his own fault, he will get nothing, but of course, if it is the fault of the elements, we will pay.

It is no accident that I am drawing on our own experience for illustrations. I repeat, it cannot fail to cause concern that in such a complex matter as the reform of agriculture there are so many shortcomings, and that there is evidence of a frivolous attitude to problems that not only touch the foundations of peasant life, but define our prospects for many years. The old saying could not be more apposite: Measure seven times, cut once.

Supreme Soviet

Federation Law on Security Issued

PM0505162592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 May 92 First Edition p 5

[Law No. 2646-1 of the Russian Federation "On Security," signed by Russian President B. Yeltsin and dated the Russian House of the Soviets, Moscow, 5 May 1992]

[Text] The present Law enshrines the legal foundations of the security of the individual, society, and state, defines the system of security and its functions, and establishes the procedure for organizing and funding security organs and also for supervising and overseeing the legality of their activity.

Section I

General Provisions

Article 1. Concept of Security and Its Objects

Security is the situation whereby the vital interests of the individual, society, and state are secure from internal and external threat.

Vital interests are the combination of requirements which are reliably satisfied by the existence of and opportunities for the progressive development of the individual, society, and state.

The following are ranked as fundamental objects of security: the individual—his rights and freedoms; society—its material and spiritual assets, the state—its constitutional system, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Article 2. Subjects of Security.

The main subject of security is the state, which exercises functions in this sphere via legislative, executive, and judicial organs.

The state, in accordance with current legislation, guarantees the security of every citizen on the territory of the Russian Federation. The state guarantees protection and patronage for citizens of the Russian Federation outside its borders.

Citizens, social and other organizations and associations are subjects of security, possess rights and duties in terms of their participation in guaranteeing security in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, the legislation of the republics within the Russian Federation, and normative acts adopted by organs of state power and management in krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, and autonomous okrugs within the bounds of their competence in this sphere. The state provides legal and social protection for citizens, social and other organizations and associations which assist in ensuring security in accordance with the law.

Article 3. Threat to Security.

A threat to security is a combination of conditions and factors that present a danger to the vital interests of the individual, society, and state.

A real and potential threat to objects of security from internal and external sources determines the substance of activity to ensure internal and external security.

Article 4. Ensuring Security.

Security is secured by the implementation of a unified state policy in the sphere of ensuring security, by a system of economic, political, organizational, and other measures commensurate to the threat to the vital interests of the individual, society, and state.

In order to create and maintain the requisite level of protection [zashchishchennost] for objects of security in the Russian Federation a system of legal norms is being formulated, regulating relations in the security sphere, the fundamental areas of activity for organs of state power and management in this sphere are being defined, and security organs and the mechanism for supervising or overseeing their activity are being formed or transformed.

State organs for ensuring security are being set up within the executive system in accordance with the law to immediately perform the functions of ensuring the security of the individual, society, or state.

Article 5. Principles of Ensuring Security.

The main principles of ensuring security are:

legality;

observance of the balance of the vital interests of the individual, society, and state;

mutual responsibility of the individual, society, and state in ensuring security.

integration with international security systems.

Article 6. Legislative Foundations of Ensuring Security.

The legislative foundations of ensuring security are the RSFSR Constitution, the present Law, Russian Federation laws and other normative acts regulating relations in the security sphere; the constitutions, laws, and other normative acts of republics within the Russian Federation and normative acts adopted by organs of state power and management in krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, and autonomous okrugs within the bounds of their competence in this sphere; international treaties and agreements concluded or recognized by the Russian Federation.

Article 7. Observance of Citizens' Rights and Freedoms in Ensuring Security.

In ensuring security limitation of citizens' rights and freedoms is not permitted, with the exception of cases for which the law makes direct provision.

Citizens, social and other organizations and associations have the right to receive explanations from organs which ensure security regarding the limitation of their rights and freedoms. These explanations are given on demand in written form within a period prescribed by law.

Officials who exceed their authority during their activity in ensuring security bear responsibility in accordance with legislation.

Section II

System of Security of the Russian Federation

Article 8. Main Elements of the Security System

The security system is formed by the organs of legislative, executive, and judicial power, state, social, and other organizations and associations, and citizens participating in ensuring security in accordance with the law as well as by legislation regulating relations in the security sphere.

The creation of organs for ensuring security not prescribed by the law of the Russian Federation is not allowed.

Article 9. Main functions of the security system

The main functions of the security system are:

Exposing and predicting internal and external threats to the vital interests of the objects of security and implementing a range of operational and long-term measures to prevent and neutralize them;

the creation and maintenance in a state of readiness of the forces and means of ensuring security;

the management of the forces and means of ensuring security in day to day conditions and in emergency situations;

the implementation of a system of measures to restore the normal functioning of the objects of security in regions adversely affected by the occurrence of an emergency situation;

participation in measures to ensure security beyond the borders of the Russian Federation in accordance with international treaties and agreements concluded or recognized by the Russian Federation.

Article 10. Delimitation of the powers of the organs of power in the security system

Ensuring the security of the individual, society, and the state is carried out on the basis of a delimitation of the powers of the organs of legislative, executive, and judicial power in a given sphere.

The Russian Federation Supreme Soviet:

determines priorities in protecting the vital interests of the objects of security;

formulates a system for the legal regulation of relations in the security sphere;

establishes a procedure for the organization and activity of the organs for ensuring security;

exercises control of the cadre policy of state organs for ensuring security;

at least once a year hears a report from the President of the Russian Federation on ensuring the security of the Russian Federation;

sets budget appropriations for the financing of the organs for ensuring security and federal programs in the security sphere;

and ratifies and denounces international treaties and agreements of the Russian Federation on security questions.

The organs of the executive:

ensure the execution of the laws and other normative acts regulating relations in the security sphere;

organize the elaboration and implementation of state programs for ensuring security;

implement a system of measures to ensure the security of the individual, society, and the state within the limits of their competence;

and, in accordance with the law, formulate, reorganize, and abolish state organs for ensuring security.

The judicial organs:

ensure the protection of the constitutional system in the Russian Federation, being guided by the RSFSR Constitution and the laws of the Russian Federation and the constitutions and laws of the republics within the Russian Federation;

dispense justice in cases relating to crimes infringing on the security of the individual, society, and the state;

and ensure the legal protection of citizens and social and other organizations whose rights have been violated in connection with activity to ensure security.

Article 11. Leadership of State Organs for Ensuring Security

The overall leadership of state organs for ensuring security is exercised by the president of the Russian Federation.

The president of the Russian Federation:

heads the Russian Federation Security Council;

together with the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, determines the strategy for ensuring internal and external security;

monitors and coordinates the activity of state organs for ensuring security;

within the limits of the authority stipulated by law, makes operational decisions on ensuring security;

submits a report on the safeguarding of the Russian Federation's security to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet not less than once a year.

The Russian Federation Council of Ministers (Russian Federation Government):

within the limits of the authority stipulated by law, ensures leadership of the Russian Federation state organs for ensuring security;

organizes and monitors the formulation and implementation of measures for ensuring security by Russian Federation ministries and state committees and by other organs of the Russian Federation, republics within the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, and autonomous okrugs that are subordinate to it.

Russian Federation ministries and state committees:

within the limits of their authority, on the basis of current legislation, and in line with decisions of the Russian Federation president and resolutions of the Russian Federation Government, ensure the implementation of federal programs for the protection of the vital interests of objects of security;

on the basis of the present Law, within the limits of their authority, formulate intradepartmental instructions (regulations) on ensuring security and submit them for examination by the Security Council.

Article 12. Security Forces and Facilities

Forces and facilities [sredstva] for ensuring security are created and developed in the Russian Federation in accordance with decisions of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, decrees of the Russian Federation president, and short-term and long-term federal security programs.

Forces for ensuring security include: the Armed Forces, federal security organs, internal affairs and foreign intelligence organs, and organs responsible for ensuring the security of organs of the legislative, executive, and judicial powers and their top officials and the tax service; services for the elimination of the consequences of emergencies and for the formation of civil defense; border troops and internal troops; organs ensuring the secure running of operations in industry, power engineering, transportation, and agriculture; services ensuring the security of means of communication and information, customs services, nature conservation organs, public health protection organs, and other state organs for ensuring security which operate on the basis of legislation.

Services of the Russian Federation Ministry of Security, the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs, and other organs of the executive power using special forces and facilities in the course of their activity operate only within the limits of their authority and in accordance with legislation.

Leaders of organs for ensuring security, in accordance with legislation, are accountable for violations of the established procedure for their activity.

Section III

The Russian Federation Security Council

Article 13. Status of the Russian Federation Security Council

The Russian Federation Security Council is a constitutional organ which prepares decisions of the Russian Federation president in the sphere of ensuring security.

The Russian Federation Security Council examines questions of the Russian Federation's domestic and foreign policy in the sphere of ensuring security and strategic problems of state, economic, public, defense, information, ecological, and other types of security, public health protection, forecasting and prevention of emergencies and elimination of their consequences, and the ensuring of stability and law and order, and is accountable to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet for the state of protection of the vital interests of the individual, society, and the state against external and internal threats.

Article 14. Composition of the Russian Federation Security Council and Procedure for Its Formation

The Russian Federation Security Council is formed on the basis of the RSFSR Constitution, the RSFSR Law "On the RSFSR President," and the present Law.

The Russian Federation Security Council is made up of: the chairman, the secretary, permanent members, and members of the Security Council.

The president of the Russian Federation is ex officio chairman of the Security Council.

The following are ex officio permanent members of the Russian Federation Security Council: the vice president of the Russian Federation, the first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, and the chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers (chairman of the Russian Federation Government).

The secretary of the Security Council is a permanent member of the Security Council, is appointed by the Russian Federation president, and is confirmed in office by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

Leaders of the following federal ministries and departments may be members of the Security Council: the economy and finance, foreign affairs, justice, defense, security, internal affairs, ecology and natural resources, health, and the Foreign Intelligence Service—as well as other officials appointed by the Russian Federation president with the consent of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

Depending on the nature of the matter under consideration, the Russian Federation Security Council may invite others to participate in its sessions as consultants.

When questions of ensuring security on the territories of republics within the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, and autonomous okrugs are under consideration, their plenipotentiary representatives are invited to participate in the work of the Security Council, along with the chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Nationalities Policy.

Article 15. Main Tasks of the Russian Federation Security Council

The main tasks of the Russian Federation Security Council are:

to determine the vital interests of the individual, society, and the state and detect internal and external threats to objects of security;

to formulate the main avenues of Russian Federation strategy for ensuring security and organize the preparation of federal programs for ensuring security;

to prepare recommendations for the Russian Federation president's decisions on questions of domestic and foreign policy in the sphere of ensuring the security of the individual, society, and the state;

to prepare operational decisions on the prevention of emergencies which could entail significant sociopolitical, economic, military, ecological, and other consequences, and on the organization of their elimination;

to prepare proposals for the Russian Federation president on the imposition, extension, or lifting of a state of emergency;

to draft proposals on coordinating the activity of organs of executive power in the process of implementing decisions in the sphere of ensuring security and assessing their efficacy;

to improve the system of ensuring security by means of drafting proposals on the reform of existing organs or the creation of new organs to ensure the security of the individual, society, and the state.

Article 16. Russian Federation Security Council's decisionmaking procedure.

Sessions of the Russian Federation Security Council will be held no less than once a month. Emergency Council sessions can be held if necessary.

Permanent members of the Russian Federation Security Council enjoy equal rights in decisionmaking. Security Council members participate in its work on a consultative basis [s pravom soveshchatelnogo golosa].

Russian Federation Security Council decisions are passed at its sessions by permanent Security Council members by a simple majority vote, and come into force upon confirmation by the Security Council chairman.

Security Council decisions on questions of ensuring security shall take the form of Russian Federation presidential decrees.

Article 17. Interdepartmental commissions of the Russian Federation Security Council.

The Russian Federation Security Council, in accordance with the main tasks of its activity, shall set up permanent interdepartmental commissions, which may be created on a functional or regional basis.

In the event of the need to elaborate proposals on preventing emergencies and eliminating their consequences, on individual problems of ensuring stability and law and order in society and the state, and on protecting the constitutional system, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Russian Federation, the Russian Federation Security Council may set up temporary interdepartmental commissions.

The procedure for setting up permanent and temporary interdepartmental commissions shall be regulated by the Provision on the Russian Federation Security Council, confirmed by the Russian Federation president in conjunction with the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

At the decision of the Russian Federation Security Council, permanent and temporary interdepartmental commissions may be headed by Security Council members, as well as by leaders of relevant Russian Federation ministries and departments, their deputies, or persons authorized thereto by the Russian Federation president.

Article 18. Apparatus of the Russian Federation Security Council.

The organizational, technical, and information backup for the activity of the Russian Federation Security Council shall be provided by its apparatus, headed by the secretary of the Russian Federation Security Council.

The structure and staff of the Russian Federation Security Council, as well as the provisions on its subunits, shall be confirmed by the Security Council chairman.

Article 19. The main tasks of the Russian Federation Security Council's interdepartmental commissions and apparatus.

The Russian Federation Security Council's interdepartmental commissions and apparatus are tasked with:

assessing domestic and external threats to the vital interests of objects of security, and revealing sources of danger;

preparing scientifically substantiated forecasts of changing domestic and external conditions and factors influencing the state of the Russian Federation's security;

elaborating and coordinating federal programs for ensuring the security of the Russian Federation and assessing their effectiveness;

accumulating, analyzing, and processing information on the functioning of system for ensuring the security of the Russian Federation, and elaborating recommendations for improving it;

briefing the Russian Federation Security Council on progress in implementing its decisions;

organizing scientific research in the sphere of ensuring security;

drawing up draft Russian Federation Security Council decisions, as well as draft Russian Federation presidential decrees on security matters;

and preparing materials for the Russian Federation president's report to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet on ensuring the Russian Federation's security.

Section IV. Financing Activities for Ensuring Security

Article 20. Financing activities for ensuring security.

Activities for ensuring security—irrespective of the content and scale of programs, the nature of emergency situations, or their consequences—shall be financed out of the Russian Federation republic budget, the budgets of republics within the Russian Federation, the budgets of krays, oblasts, the autonomous oblast, autonomous okrugs, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as from extrabudgetary funds.

Section V. Monitoring and Supervision of Activities for Ensuring Security

Article 21. Monitoring activities for ensuring security.

The monitoring of activities for ensuring security is implemented by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet via the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Republic and Soviet of Nationalities, corresponding standing commissions of the chambers, and Russian Federation Supreme Soviet committees in line with existing legislation.

Within their purview Russian Federation organs of state power and management monitor the activities of ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations for ensuring security.

Social and other associations and organizations, and Russian Federation citizens are entitled to receive information on the activity of organs for ensuring security in line with existing legislation.

Article 22. Supervision of the legality of the activity of organs for ensuring security.

Supervision of the legality of the activity of organs for ensuring security is implemented by the Russian Federation prosecutor general and subordinate prosecutors.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin

Moscow, House of the Soviets of Russia

5 March 1992

No. 2646-1

Regional Affairs

Emergency Committee Set Up in Ingushetiya

LD0505145492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1423 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy May 5 TASS—The socio-political situation in Ingushetiya, which actually broke away from the Chechen republic but has not yet gained independence within Russia, has complicated once again. The wave of rallies and armed clashes between the warring political groups forced the authorities of Nazranovskiy district, the central administrative division in Ingushetiya, to impose a special legal regime of activity. An emergency committee headed by Shamsuddin Mogushkov, who previously was in charge of the Interior Ministry department in neighbouring Malgobekskiy district, was set up to govern the district.

The committee's resolutions are mandatory for the fulfillment by all governing bodies, managers and individuals. It was not stipulated for how long the committee will operate but it is noted that it was formed only temporarily until "there is no longer any need for its existence."

Emergency committees have not yet been formed in other districts of Ingushetiya.

Dudayev Requests Quicker Coup Investigation

LD0505130792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1100 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 5 May—Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev demands that the republic's law enforcement bodies accelerate their investigation into the circumstances surrounding the attempted coup that took place there. As previously reported, five people were killed on 31 March in this North Caucasus republic during armed clashes between the opposition and forces loyal to the president. The opposition was demanding that Chechenia, which has not signed the new Federation Treaty, remain within the Russian Federation, that Dudayev be deposed, the parliament dissolved, and new elections held. At a special assembly, Dudayev was sharply critical of the procuracy, the recently-formed investigating committee, and the Chechen Republic's Security Ministry, accusing them of dragging their feet. He said that he might disband these bodies and "go to the people" if the investigation is not speeded up. He did not explain what he meant by threatening to go to the people. According to Mansur Tagirov, chairman of the republic's investigating committee, 12 people have been charged with complicity in the coup attempt. Another six are being sought, and a total of over 60 are suspected of involvement in the conspiracy. Mansur Tagirov denied rumors that the accused, who are under detention in military guardrooms, are being beaten. Tagirov said that the investigation had revealed evidence that some officials had been involved in the attempted coup. Firearms, night sights, and firearms permits were confiscated from the detainees.

Latest Military Draft Announced in Checheniya

LD0505115192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1025 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Excerpt] Groznyy, 5 May—The latest call-up to active military service was announced in the Chechen Republic today by a decree by its president, Dzhokhar Dudayev. Young men born in 1974 are called into the army and they will serve on the territory of Checheniya for 18 months. However, if the statements by the republic's leaders can be believed, those who express such a desire may also serve in other CIS regions. [passage omitted]

Chechen TV, Radio To Pursue Leaders' Policy

LD0505082592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Chechen Ministry of Press and Mass Information approved regulations on the functioning of the television and radio company on the republic's territory. According to the regulations, the television and radio company becomes the republic's property and pursues the policy of its leadership. All changes in its staff are to be based on decrees by the Chechen minister of press and information.

Dagestan Police Brace for Ethnic Confrontation

LD0505192192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1449 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gadzhiy Shamov]

[Text] Makhachkala May 5 TASS—Current confrontation between the two Dagestan ethnic groups, the Kumyks and the Laktsiy, in the village of Karman-Tube, ten kilometers north of Makhachkala, was sparked by the decision of the third Dagestan Congress of People's Deputies to build a new residential district for migrant-Laktsiy in the valley near Karman-Tube.

The Kumyks claim the territory is historically theirs as the Laktsiy keep arriving here by buses, trucks and cars.

Though thousands of armed people have gathered in Karman-Tube, the local police have managed to avert serious clashes. A little spark is enough to set off skirmishes, police believe.

Moscow Leaders 'Ready To Satisfy' Strikers

OW0505160392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1525 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The teachers of Moscow intend to join the All-Russian strike May 22. This decision was passed at the city conference of the people's education employees May 5. The conference stated that the main cause of the strike is nonfulfillments of President Yeltsin's decree on development of people's education foreseeing the increase of the teachers wages up to the average in industry.

The first deputy premier of the Moscow government Victor Korobchenko told "IF" [INTERFAX] that the Moscow leadership is ready to satisfy all the demands of the strikers and to allocate 1.5 billion roubles for the branch and to partly raise the wages. According to the strike committee, if Yeltsin's decrees were fulfilled than it would be possible to satisfy all the needs of the teachers and of the branch on the whole. A final decision on the strike's duration is not passed yet.

Kaliningrad Groups Express Support for Reforms

LD0505053592 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] At a conference held today in Kaliningrad, representatives of regional social and political organizations expressed their support for the economic reforms of the Russian Government. They adopted a resolution to set up a block of democratic forces of Kaliningrad oblast, which will pursue the acceleration of the transition to a market economy.

The resolution condemns the results of the Sixth Congress of Russian People's Deputies, and proposes holding a founding meeting in order to adopt a new constitution, and to hold early elections to the parliament and to local power bodies on a multi-party basis.

Orsk Veterans Urge End to Communist Party Ban

LD0305055592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0315 GMT 2 May 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Goncharov]

[Text] Orenburg, 2 May—Members of the board of the association "For Justice" and the council of war and labor veterans of Orsk, a town in the Urals, have sent a petition to the constitutional court of the Russian Federation in which they categorically demand that the prohibition on Communist Party activities be lifted.

Veterans expressed their "civil scorn for Mikhail Gorbachev, former general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who betrayed the party and the Soviet people." Today's edition of YUZHNYY URAL, an oblast newspaper, carries a report on the protest letter written by Orsk veterans.

International Affairs

Kravchuk on Official 5-Day Visit to U.S.

Commentary Previews Visit

LD0505154792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Today Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk started a visit to the United States. He will hold talks with Bush and will make a speech to Congress. It is expected that disarmament issues will be the focal point of discussions. Ukraine has its own interests in the United States, and quite a few of them. Here is our commentary.

[M. Osokin] The Ukrainian President will hold talks in Washington on the problems of the economy and trade, but to all appearances the main subject will be nuclear problems. The Americans have got masses of questions to ask Kiev on this subject. In the United States they are saying that they are alarmed by the statements of some politicians, including President Kravchuk himself, who are hinting at the special nuclear status of Ukraine.

The United States also referred to the words of Dyrgach, member of the Ukrainian parliament defense commission, that the republic will remain a nuclear state. And in connection with such reports, some are paying attention to the fact that Ukraine itself is capable of producing strategic weapons, for example, at the Yuzhmash works. It was precisely there that the SS-18 missiles known in the West under the code name of "Satan" were manufactured. In general, they are either stating their rights to the status of a nuclear power, or, with no less conviction, they are turning down that status and talking about adherence to the idea of a nuclear-free state.

Now, during Kravchuk's visit, U.S. politicians will most likely want some clarity regarding these issues at last. But Kravchuk is evidently trying to set forth Kiev's position in the best argumented way both with regard to this problem and with regard to differences relating to the procedure for withdrawing the tactical armaments from Ukraine to Russia and regarding other subjects of dispute between Kiev and Moscow. Ukrainian officials have already expressed concern that in the United States they are frequently misunderstood, that the West regards Ukraine as unpredictable and imprudent, especially in its relations with Russia.

However, to be fair about it, it is worth mentioning that in the United States they often point out the unpredictability of Russian leaders as well and, as some politicians in Washington say, one fine day Kiev will possibly understand that it is worth being calmer and Moscow will ultimately recognize that Ukraine as a former province is lost for ever. However, it looks as if it will be quite a while before that time comes.

Speaks at Embassy Opening

LD0605052592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0345 GMT 6 May 92

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Viktor Demidenko and ITAR- TASS correspondent Igor Barsukov]

[Excerpts] Washington, 6 May— Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk arrived here on Tuesday [5 May] afternoon for an official visit at the invitation of U.S. President George Bush. At Andrews Air Force Base, situated close to Washington, the president and members of the government delegation were welcomed by officials of the U.S. State Department and representatives of the Ukrainian community in the United States. Immediately after arrival, President L. Kravchuk was taken to Washington in a helicopter. Later, in the evening, the Ukrainian president opened the embassy of Ukraine in Washington. Secretary of State James Baker, who welcomed the Ukrainian president to the American capital, was present at the ceremony.

We have witnessed a historic event—an official opening of the Embassy of independent Ukraine in the United States of America, L. Kravchuk said. It is of great significance to us—this is one of our first embassies in the Western hemisphere. Many generations of Ukrainians, both in our homeland and across the oceans, as fates have decreed, have been dreaming of this day. We have spent many years trying to achieve this, overcoming misfortunes on our way, mutual prejudices and mistrust. We have walked toward true state sovereignty step by step through endless trials of our endurance. This sovereignty has become an indisputable fact. The opening of our embassy, the Ukrainian president continued, was possible due to the substantial support which we experienced on the part of U.S. President George Bush and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Kravchuk expressed gratitude to good friends of Ukraine—brothers by birth—Mr. Yuriy Chopivskiy and Mr. Yevgen Ivantsiv for their active and substantial help. The head of the Ukrainian state introduced at the ceremony the first Ukrainian ambassador to the United States, Oleg Belorus. He expressed confidence that the ambassador would be a worthy representative of Ukrainian interests. Very soon, Kiev will be welcoming the first U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Mr. Roman Popadyuk, said L. Kravchuk. The exchange of ambassadors will allow us to step up the process of building friendly relations based on equal rights between the two states.

L. Kravchuk assured the gathering in conclusion that independent Ukraine would continue to pursue honest and open foreign policy in the interests of its people, in the interests of the world community, and for the sake of a safer future. From now on, the Ukrainian Embassy will symbolize a new stage in bilateral relations between Ukraine and the United States and will become an important link between the governments and peoples of our countries. [passage omitted]

Today L. Kravchuk is to hold talks with U.S. President George Bush, first in the White House and then at Camp David—the country residence of U.S. Presidents. U.S.-Ukrainian documents on cooperation between the two countries will also be signed today. During his stay in Washington, the Ukrainian president will also meet leaders of the U.S. Congress and representatives of business and public circles.

President L. Kravchuk is accompanied by Vice Prime Minister Oleg Slepichev; Aleksandr Yemelyanov, Ukrainian state counsellor on issues of economic policy; Dmitro Pavlychko, chairman of the permanent commission of the Ukrainian parliament on foreign affairs; Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatoliy Zlenko; and other officials.

Condemns Crimean Independence

LD0605081192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0725 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin]

[Excerpt] Washington, 6 May—Ukraine President Leonid Kravchuk, who arrived in Washington on an official visit on Tuesday [5 May], has stated that the Crimean parliament's adoption of a declaration of independence is a violation of the Ukrainian constitution. During a brief meeting with journalists at a ceremony for the opening of the Ukrainian embassy in Washington, he let it be understood that the declaration has no legal force in the eyes of Ukraine. [passage omitted]

American Policy Regarding Ukraine Criticized

AU0505073992 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 30 Apr 92 p 2

[Article by L. Leshchenko, doctor of historical sciences, professor: "Washington: A Change of Policy With Regard to Ukraine?"]

[Text] A special place in the glimmering luster of today's international contacts belongs to those that have to do with the relations between the United States of America and Ukraine. This is testified to by the considerable activity on the part of diplomats, experts, legislators, as well as of military, public, and political figures who shuttle between Washington and Kiev. Preparations are under way for Ukraine's president Leonid Kravchuk's official visit to the United States. This visit is planned for the beginning of May. The negotiations will touch upon a wide circle of issues in the development of relations between Ukraine and the United States in the political, economic, military-strategic, and humanitarian spheres.

It appears that under these conditions it is worth looking into the recent evolution of the United States' policy with regard to Ukraine, first and foremost in the realm of politics and military strategy, because it is precisely there that some new trends have emerged. What is behind their emergence and in which direction will they develop?

1. An Orientation Toward a New Empire?

In a broad context, against the background of the disintegration of the Soviet empire and cessation of the "cold war," the United States' policy has undergone significant changes. Washington has recognized the fact of the USSR's disintegration and of the emergence, in its place, of a string of independent states. The Americans are guided by their own interests and by considerations of the national security of their own country, and, of course, it would have been more reliable for them to deal with a somewhat reformed USSR, rather than with 15 new states. Hence the rigorous orientation toward Russia and the CIS. This is understandable, although not always justifiable.

The right of choice and the principle of self-determination of oppressed people, along with human rights, are fundamental to international relations. Over decades, the United States has also advocated the need to adhere to them, although, in reality, it has sometimes acted differently, exercising "double standards." On the one hand, the United States has recognized the new states—the former Soviet republics—and has established diplomatic relations with many of them, including Ukraine. On the other hand, it clings to the opinion that Russia is the only successor to the former USSR, tends to regard the CIS as a kind of fetish, and, in fact, forces independent countries to act within the framework of the CIS under the auspices of Russia.

Various forms of pressure are being exerted upon Ukraine in order to change its "separatist" behavior, which allegedly "provokes" Russia. This refers to the procedure of the destruction of nuclear weapons, the ownership of the Black Sea Fleet, the repayment of the former USSR's debts, and so on. Ever since the proclamation of Ukraine's state independence, the broad circles of the Ukrainian public has had reason to believe that, sometimes, the West does not take into account the vital interests of Ukraine and shows a certain bias in assessing its intentions and actions.

An explanation for such a situation can be found in the inadequate information that Western countries, including the United States, have on Ukraine's internal and external policy, its national aspirations, and true intentions. The anti-Ukrainian campaign in Russia's mass media has had its effect. Nor can it be ruled out that Russian diplomatic missions in Western countries deliberately create a negative image of Ukraine. It is also worth taking into consideration the inertia and conservatism that characterize the thinking of common Western citizens who have always identified the USSR with Russia and who have no intention of looking deeper into the essence of the relations between Russia and the

"rebel" states. One should not overestimate the possibilities of the Ukrainian Diaspora's influence upon Washington's policy. Such influence does exist, but it is limited, and the problems and interests of the entire American nation are placed at the forefront.

2. Lest the Mistake Should Be Repeated

Not so long ago, the United States, in fact, suffered a failure when it tried to hamper the disintegration of the USSR and supported M. Gorbachev at a time when the latter's prestige within the country was already quite low. Washington's present one-sided orientation toward Moscow is also based on shaky ground. First, today's internal situation in Russia is too unstable, the red and brown specter of dictatorship has been reborn behind the back of the deprived and disillusioned masses, and the foundations of Yeltsin's feeble democracy are being shaken. Second, the conservative circles of Russia may use the promised large-scale economic assistance from the West for maintaining the inefficient socioeconomic structures and for "building up the muscles" of the unreformed military-industrial complex. Third, the pro-imperial circles in Russia are too strong. They are nurturing the idea of the restoration of a "single and indivisible" Russia. Territorial claims upon other states, including the Ukrainian Crimea are being cultivated, as well as ideas that Russia needs to protect the rights of Russians, no matter where they reside. This may give rise to direct and indirect forms of intervention. Fourth, notwithstanding assurances by official authorities, there are no guarantees that Russia will eliminate the nuclear weapons, including those transferred from Ukraine. The creation of an international control mechanism is necessary.

However, despite the good intentions to create a more reliable system of regional and international security, fuel may be added to the fire that is already glowing. Sober realism, and not illusory ideas or expectations, must gain the upper hand in politics.

Of course, it would be odd if differences did not emerge in Ukrainian-American relations or if there were no dissimilar interpretations of international problems. However, as a rule, they concern relations with third countries or the settlement of problems inherited from the USSR. The main thing is that the action of powerful factors is intensifying, factors that draw the two countries together and that create a favorable foundation for cooperation to our mutual advantage.

3. What is Uniting Us

First, the United States is interested in maintaining stability on the territory of the former USSR. In turn, Ukraine is precisely that region where, so far, stability is a fact, and therefore, it must positively influence other regions and promote the political resolution of problems that emerge. With some economic assistance from outside, Ukraine's economy may quickly stand on its own feet.

Second, having joined the common European process, Ukraine is ready to act constructively in establishing good-neighborly relations with other states. It has no territorial claims upon anyone, but it also rejects the attempts of others at its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The recent political decision adopted by Rukh [Ukraine's People's Movement for Perestroyka], in which Russia's policy with regard to the Crimea is assessed as aggressive in intent and glaring interference in Ukraine's internal affairs, offers quite serious argumentation. If one also takes into account other actions incited along the Ukrainian borders, one can draw the conclusion that certain circles are only too willing to surround Ukraine with a kind of "instability line." Undoubtedly, Ukraine needs support on the part of the international community, first and foremost the United States, to prevent any attempt to violate the peace and calm in this region. It would be useful to implement the idea of Ukraine's signing nonaggression treaties with all its neighbors, and the United States could be one of the guarantors of such pacts, as well as of Ukraine's future status as a neutral state.

Third, in the question of nuclear disarmament, Ukraine is ready to fulfill its obligations and remove, for destruction, the tactical nuclear weapons from its territory by 1 July 1992 and strategic weapons—by the end of 1994. The only thing that is necessary is international control to ensure that these nuclear weapons are really destroyed in Russia. If there are no such guarantees and difficulties arise in creating an international commission, then Ukraine might transfer its nuclear warheads for destruction to the United States, where a corresponding technology has been elaborated and where the possibility exists to monitor the process of destruction. Arguments against such an alternative are rather dictated by Russia's ambitious interests.

Fourth, Ukraine does not aspire to play the role of a world superpower, does not compete with the United States, and does not do any damage to its interests. At the same time, Ukraine can be an advantageous partner in various spheres of international coexistence, proceeding from its economic and intellectual potential, rich natural resources, the diligence of its people, and so on.

Strategic decisions in the Unites States are not generally adopted during the year of presidential elections, and this right is given to a future administration. However, the international situation demands that Washington undertake actions even now, in view of the processes that are under way in the CIS. A decision on economic assistance is an important measure, although Ukraine would like to receive more essential assistance. We hear about recent, new, fruitful Ukrainian-American contacts. It may be expected that the present trends in Washington's policy will enable the emergence of a new line that would take into account Ukraine's role in European policy.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With U.S. Bank

LD0605091392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2049 GMT 5 May 92

[By UKRINFORM-TASS]

[Text] Kiev May 6 TASS—The heads of the Ukrainian and U.S. export-Import banks signed an agreement here, under which partners will create favourable conditions for each other in carrying through financial transactions.

Speaking at a press conference in the U.S. embassy in Kiev, U.S. Export-Import Bank Board Chairman Eugene Losen emphasised that an urgent task of his bank now was to assist Ukraine in enacting economic reforms. He said the bank's delegation which arrived in Kiev had talks in the Ukrainian Ministries of Finance, Foreign Economic Relations, Trade and other agencies. Losen thinks the results of these talks inspire hope. He believes Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk's visit to the U.S. will help deepen ties between the Ukrainian and American business communities.

Concerning current economic reforms in Ukraine, Losen said U.S. businessmen followed very closely each step in enacting them and, for their part, will help expedite these reforms. They will likewise aid Ukraine to get integrated in various international economic and financial structures, specifically the International Monetary Fund.

Ministry Denies Sending Arms to Azerbaijan

NC0505201792 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Upon hearing mass media reports that Ukraine [words indistinct] is sending arms and ammunitions to Azerbaijan, the organizing committee of the international conference on Nagorno-Karabakh to be held within the CSCE framework has asked the Ukrainian Defense Ministry for an explanation.

Vitaliy Daniyelov, cochairman of the conference, told an ARMENPRES correspondent that the Ukrainian Defense Ministry considers this [word indistinct] misinformation. Ukraine consistently adheres to its principles of not sending arms to hot spots where human rights are being violated. The Ukrainian Defense Ministry intends to issue an official statement on this matter.

Report of Black Sea Fleet Agreement Denied

OW0505183592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1808 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry refuted the information of the TV company "Ostankino" that the plenipotentiary Russian and Ukrainian delegations on the negotiations in Odessa reached an agreement to transfer a part of the Black Sea Fleet to Ukraine. The Foreign Ministry stated that a wish was submitted as a reality. The parties came to a consent concerning the need to begin concrete development of the agreement itself. The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry also explained that it does not know anything about rumours saying that Russia protracts the negotiations on the Black Sea Fleet so as to sale [as received] some of its vessels. At present situation it is practically impossible, the Ministry underlines.

National Affairs

Crimean Supreme Soviet Debates Independence

Crimea Warned of Presidential Rule

LD0405213592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2005 GMT 4 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A session of the local parliament is to open in the Crimea tomorrow. It will examine the question of a referendum. The referendum is sought by supporters of Crimean independence from Ukraine; they have already collected the number of signatures required to hold it.

Meanwhile, the authorities in Kiev are in quite a severe mood. Representatives of Ukrainian President Kravchuk have already stated that if the referendum takes place, the Crimean parliament will be disbanded and presidential rule will be introduced in the peninsula.

Referendum, Kuznetzov Discussed

OW0505133792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1255 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The parliament of the Republic of the Crimea, which opened its session in Simferopol, Tuesday [5 May], is discussing the 1st item on the agenda: the situation in the Crimea following the adoption of the law on the status of the Republic of the Crimea by the Ukrainian parliament. According to IF [INTERFAX] sources, the Crimean parliament's chairman Nikolay Bagrov and vice-chairman of the Ukrainian parliament Vladimir Grinev, who spoke during the session, opposed the law, noting that the dialogue between Kiev and Simferopol over the delimitation of powers should continue.

Before starting the discussion of the agenda, the Crimean MPs [members of parliament] decided to ask the Ukrainian president to suspend the Ukrainian defence ministry's order on dismissing Major-General Valeriy Kuznetsov, the commander of the army corps located in Simferopol. The MPs proposed postponing the implementation of the order till the question of the corps' command has been discussed with participation of the Crimean and Ukrainian parliamentary commissions on military questions.

The press center of the Crimean Republic movement reports that on Tuesday morning, Kuznetsov was removed from his post, while the deputies and Cossacks who guarded him were driven out of the corps' headquarters in Simferopol.

The discussion of this problem in the parliament revealed that Kuznetsov's dismissal had not been coordinated either with the military command or with the chairman of the Crimean parliament.

The Crimean MPs are also to come to terms on the referendum on the Crimea's independence, and to discuss the constitution.

Several thousand residents of Simferopol gathered in front of the parliament building on Tuesday morning chanting: "Freedom!" The opponents of the referendum also gathered near the parliament building. There were only 30 of them.

'State Independence' Proclaimed

LD0505170192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Today at 1830 Moscow time [1430 GMT] the Supreme Soviet of the Crimea adopted an act on proclaiming state independence of the Republic of the Crimea. This is reported by the NEGA Agency from Simferopol. A total of 118 out of 167 deputies voted in its favor.

At the same time the Crimean parliament decided to address the president and the parliament of Ukraine with a proposal to conclude a bilateral Crimean-Russian treaty. It has been proposed to put the act on the state independence of the Crimea to an all-Crimean referendum.

At first, the Simferopol parliament suggested that the law on the division of powers between the Crimea and the Ukraine be discussed in its second reading and adopted. However, when adopting this act, the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet was significantly cutting the prerogatives of the Crimean authorities which had been discussed earlier and tried to foist on the republic the status of an autonomy which it had already rejected. Obviously, these steps have lead to a toughening of the position of the Crimean parliament.

Referendum Planned for 2 Aug

LD0505185292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Crimean Supreme Soviet today adopted an act on the Republic of Crimea's state independence and an address to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet president proposing that Ukraine and Crimea conclude a bilateral treaty. A referendum is planned for 2 August at which the act on state independence can be confirmed. Another ballot paper at the referendum will ask: Are you in favor of an independent Republic of Crimea in a union with other states? A campaign for holding an all-Crimean referendum began, based on this question. The initiators have collected the necessary number of votes. For the first time, Crimean residents will have a greater choice: either remain within the structure of Ukraine and build relations with her on the basis of a treaty and equal rights or become an independent republic and build relations based on equal rights not only with Ukraine but also with other states.

Ukraine's Power Offers Rejected

LD0505215392 Kiev UKRINFORM Diplomatic Information Service in Russian 1801 GMT 5 May 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Lev Ryabchikov]

[Text] Simferopol, 5 May—The Crimean parliament spent several hours discussing the situation that developed after the Ukrainian law "On the Status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea" was adopted. Supreme Soviet Chairman Nikolay Bagrov made a statement on this issue. The speeches boiled down to the fact that the powers the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet delegated to the Republic do not meet the Crimean people's expectations and what the Ukrainian leaders promised them.

Ukrainian People's Deputies Albert Korneyev and Aleksandr Emets explained the Ukrainian parliament's position. Vladimir Grinev, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputy chairman, said that the adopted law could be seen as a stage in solving the Crimean problem, that a law is not a dogma, and that there are prospects for further joint work on its improvement. Nevertheless, those arguments did not seem to convince the majority of deputies.

The session adopted the act on the Republic of Crimea's state independence, which says: The Supreme Soviet declares the creation of the sovereign state of the Republic of Crimea proceeding from the need to accelerate the establishment of Crimean statehood; to implement the declaration of Crimean state sovereignty; to confirm the priority of the values common to all mankind, general norms, and principles of international law; and to share with other states the full responsibility for returning the deported peoples. The Republic of Crimea will build its relations with other states in accordance with international law and on the principles of equality and mutually beneficial cooperation. The territory of the Republic within the borders of the Crimean Peninsula is indivisible and inviolable.

The act comes into effect upon its confirmation by the all- Crimean referendum.

The parliament proposed to the Ukrainian president and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet that Crimea and Ukraine conclude a bilateral treaty. Thus, participants in the referendum scheduled for 2 August will have to answer two questions: "Are you for independent Crimea in union with other states?" and "Do you confirm the Act of State Independence of the Republic of Crimea?"

Parliament will start discussing Crimea's draft constitution on 6 May.

'No Possibility' for Statehood

OW0505183892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1808 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The position of the Ukrainian leadership on Crimea is unchangeable: Crimea is an integral part of the Ukrainian territory, the press secretary of the Ukrainian plenipotentiary mission to Russia Vadim Dolganov told "IF" [INTERFAX]. According to him, "Crimea has no possibility, and no prospects for creating a kind of a state". Dolganov declared that the resolutions of the Crimean Supreme Soviet's session "were not a sensation". Their aim is to lay a legal base under the prepared resolution. "Definite forces" stand behind the resolutions of Simferopol's session and they want Crimea, having occupied a certain position between Ukraine and Russia, to receive "guaranties and support" from both the parties, the press secretary considers.

Officials Condemn Decision

AU0605114992 Paris AFP in English 1104 GMT 6 May 92

[Report by Natalia Feduschak]

[Text] Kiev, May 6 (AFP)—Ukrainian lawmakers and government officials Wednesday [6 May] condemned Crimea's independence declaration by the local parliament as an illegal act. They warned that any decision made by the leadership in Simferopol, the capital of the Russian-dominated peninsula in southern Ukraine, must be ratified by the Ukrainian parliament which last week conceded greater autonomy to the region.

The Crimean parliament, in a move likely to further enflame relations between Russia and Ukraine, on Tuesday adopted the independence declaration. The decision would come into force depending on the results of a referendum, which Ukrainian television said could be held on August 2.

"The Crimean parliament had no juridical rights to do this and vote for an independent nation," said Serhey Holowaty, an international lawyer, who is also a member of parliament. "The Ukrainian parliament must ratify this decision and I am not sure they will do this", he said.

The present tug-of-war between Ukraine and Crimea, which is backed by Moscow, springs from a 1954 decision by then Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev to give the territory to Ukraine as a gift from Russia to celebrate the 300 year "union" between the two nations. But with the breakup of the Soviet Union, the Crimea, like other autonomous republics, has begun to clamor for its independence as well.

The peninsula has a population of some two-and-a-half million people and over 100 nationalities, with ethnic Russians making up the majority.

Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has lobbied hard to keep Crimea within his republic, and last October he appeared to have scored a victory when the Crimean parliament voted against holding an independence referendum. But amid a major dispute between Moscow and Kiev over the fate of the Black Sea fleet, statements from the Russian parliament declaring the 1954 act as illegal and calls for the return of the peninsula to Russia prompted the parliament's independence proclamation.

In Crimea itself, the population is increasingly divided on the independence issue.

The Ukrainian parliament in Kiev had tried to ward off the independence vote last week by granting the Crimea increased powers of self-government within Ukraine's constitution. The Kiev parliament provided for a Crimean constitution, as long as it did not go against Ukraine's constitution and voted for more financial assistance to the region. The parliament, however, also noted the region was an integral part of Ukrainian territory.

During a panel discussion on Ukrainian television late Tuesday, deputies said it would be a while before the effects of the Crimean parliament's decision were felt. "They don't yet realize what they have done", said one lawmaker. Some say they expect the decision may be reversed.

The region is heavily dependent on Ukraine for basic supplies. Per year it gets two billion dollars worth of water, all its coal and sugar, 90 percent of its electricity and 55 percent of oil products. As an independent nation, it would have to buy these products from Ukraine at world prices. And that, many here say, is not possible.

Moscow Radio Replaced by Ukrainian Program

LD0505130192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] While to all appearances Ukraine and Russia are attempting to resolve the fate of the Black Sea Fleet and the Crimea without success, the Crimeans themselves have been thinking about their fate. Today the local parliament is to specify the date for the referendum on independence and on the draft for the Crimea's new constitution. It is not without influence on the part of the Ukraine that events in the Crimean are occurring. A few days ago the local branch of Rukh held its own rally there. And today it became known that the broadcasting of Radio One [Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network] has stopped in the Crimea. In its place one can listen to a Ukrainian radio program.

Rally Criticizes Cabinet's 'Incompetent Actions'

LD0205131192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1136 GMT 2 May 92

[From the "Politics Section]

[Text] Donetsk—Approximately 4,000 people took part in a rally dedicated to the International Day of Working People's Solidarity in Donetsk demanding to make Russian the second state language in Donbass in addition to Ukrainian. The ralliers confirmed their resolute support of the Ukraine's federative state structure. The resolution approved at the rally points out that the life of working people in the Ukraine and Donbass has deteriorated dramatically. Under the current circumstances participants of the rally demanded to introduce higher payment facility in the area for the reason of Donbass having the highest prices in the Ukraine. They also demanded to establish maximum prices for basic goods, including fuel. The resolution emphasizes that incompetent actions of the Cabinet of Ministers headed by Vitold Fokin, the Ukrainian Parliament and President Leonid Kravchuk which have already caused strong social inequality among Donbass employes may soon lead to a social explosion in the area.

The ralliers appealed to deputies of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet elected in the Donetsk region calling them to vote against the republican budget hurting the interests of Donbass. According to the activists, the current state policy in Donbass is nothing but discrimination and robbery. Wealth produced and earned by the labor of Donbass people should not go to Kiev but be utilized to solve the economic, social and ecological problems of Donbass, reads the resolution. Participants of the rally also demanded to structure the local budget according to the bottom to top principle and protested against rising totalitarianism in the Ukraine, constraint of people's power and limiting the authority of local councils.

The resolution supports integration processes within the CIS and recommends that leaders of the CIS states should work not to secure personal power but for the good of their citizens. The ralliers demanded that leaders should immediately stop inter-republican conflicts and escalation of military hysteria. They demanded to leave unchanged TV and radio broadcasts from outside the Ukraine. The ralliers protested against the rebirth of Ukraine's pro-Fascist Bendera Movement and forming of armed self-defense units by the Ukrainian National Assembly. Donbass is the motherland of all of its citizens irrespective of their nationality. Donbass people may and must independently manage their future, reads the resolution.

The rally was attended by representatives of Donetsk branches of the Ukrainian Socialist Party, Donbass Inter Movement, Ukrainian Democratic Rebirth Party, Democratic Movement for the Rebirth of Donbass. Some working collective councils, the Committee of Soldiers' Mothers, the People's Rukh, deputies of city and district councils were represented at the rally.

Supreme Soviet Session Discusses Reform

AU0505142392 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 30 Apr 92 p 1

[UKRINFORM report: "In Need of Reform"]

[Text] The concept of the judicial and legal reform in Ukraine was the focus of attention of the deputies at the Supreme Soviet's plenary meeting on 28 April. It was presented by O.P. Kotsyuba, chairman of the Permanent Commission for Questions of Legislation and Law Enforcement.

The session approved, on the majority of points, the Concept of the Judicial and Legal Reform and authorized the Cabinet of Ministers and permanent commissions to further improve it, taking into account the remarks and proposals made by the deputies and to prepare and submit for the Supreme Soviet's consideration the draft laws on the judicial system and the legal profession and on introducing changes and amendments into the Criminal-Procedural and Civil-Procedural codes. At the end of the meeting, the parliamentarians heard a report about the draft law on Ukraine's Constitutional Court.

Party Program Calls for Radical Military Reform

LD0505131992 Kiev UKRINFORM Diplomatic Information Service in Russian 1724 GMT 4 May 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Nikolay Zaika]

[Text] Kiev, 4 May—A demand to pursue radical military reform has been included in the program of the Ukrainian Republican Party [URP] adopted at the Third Congress of the URP which has been held here. It provides in particular for transferring to the republic government the military units—with all their hardware, weapons, communications systems, test sites and accommodation—naval forces, bases, and airfields of the armed forces of the former USSR which are located on Ukrainian territory. It is planned to man the Ukrainian armed forces on a voluntary professional basis.

The URP advocates the total elimination of nuclear weapons in Ukraine with simultaneous disarmament by other nuclear states. At the same time, taking account of attempts by neighboring states to make territorial claims on Ukraine, the URP considers the renunciation of nuclear weapons premature.

As regards the Black Sea Fleet, it is stated that it should be transferred to Ukrainian ownership.

The URP resolutely rejects the artificial imposition on Ukraine of the status of a neutral state with make-believe armed forces and urges the immediate creation of effective armed forces capable of reliably deterring possible aggressive encroachments by other states.

Decree Amends Cabinet of Ministers Resolution

AU0505142992 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 30 Apr 92 p 1

[Ukrainian presidential amendment to Cabinet of Ministers resolution; place and date of issue not given: "President Corrects Cabinet of Ministers Resolution"]

[Text] The Ukrainian presidential decree states, in particular, as follows: In accordance with the resolution adopted by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers on 15 April 1992 "On Introducing Changes Into the System of Regulated Prices and Rates," the procedure for determining the amount of rent in buildings of the state and civil housing fund was specified on the basis of the total area of the apartment. This violated Article 66 of Ukraine's Housing Code in accordance with which the rent must be estimated on the basis of dwelling space and not total area of the apartment. In view of the above, on the basis of paragraph 7-2 of Article 114-5 of Ukraine's Constitution, it has been resolved as follows: To cancel Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers resolution of 15 April 1992 "On Introducing Changes Into the System of Regulated Prices and Rates" and Section II of the supplement to that part, which deals with the determination of the housing rent proceeding from the total area as contradictory to Article 66 of Ukraine's Housing Code.

Byelarus

Leaders, Opposition Comment on Presidency Issue

OW0505162492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1600 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] During the next 18 months Byelarus should not have a presidential election, say Minsk observers who analyze addresses in parliament and the mass media of Byelarus leaders and the leaders of various political forces. This opinion is shared by most experts despite the fact that in the project of the new republican constitution which is likely to be passed next summer, is envisaged the introduction of the presidency.

Nevertheless, local politologists are already now proposing various scenarios of struggle for the presidency. There may be around 10 nominations, but only three politicians have realistic chances to gain the post: chairman of the Byelarus Supreme Soviet Stanislav Shushkevich, premier Vyacheslav Kebich and Popular Front leader Zenon Poznyak.

In one of the pronouncements Kebich described himself as an opponent of presidency in Byelarus soon. According to him, a preparatory period is required during which the membership of the Supreme Soviet presidium will be cut to a minimum: 7 to 10 people. Changes people would not understand may cause tension, instability and even bloodshed, said Shushkevich.

Opposition leaders also spoke out against the presidency in Byelarus. Thus, one of the leaders of the Byelarus Popular Front and head of the shadow committee of ministers Vladimir Zablotsky believes that the republican would not require a president for several years. But if the Byelarus referendum returns a no-confidence vote to parliament and government of the republic and leads to a new election of the supreme body of legislative power, the opposition may review its attitude toward the presidency and nominate Zenon Poznyak. But this will not happen overnight, if ever, says the shadow premier. The referendum results the opposition is willing to see, as hopes Zablotsky, will put Shushkevich and Kebich out of play because their candidacies, he believes, do not agree with the task of the formation of a new Belarus state. The speaker of the new Byelarus parliament Zablotsky sees in the 40-year-old secretary of the commission of the Supreme Soviet for industry, energy, transport, communications and IT Vladimir Novik.

Novik shares the positions of the head of the shadow cabinet: "Executive authority has a bigger prestige in the presidential system than legislative. Byelarus should not now assign such priorities." In the future, said he, the main thing is to determine the choice of the form: will the president be a nominal head of state as in Germany or Byelarus will have the U.S. system.

Moldova

Conciliation Commission Holds Meeting

LD0505191792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] There was a chance to stop the war in the Dniester region today, but it seems that the opposing sides did not take advantage of it. The conciliation commission meeting in Bendery proved fruitless. Its agenda included the issues of observing the cease-fire agreement and disbanding armed formations in the Dubossary area. No agreement was reached on either of these issues, correspondent Mikhail Zotov reports. Talks continue tomorrow. The number of casualties grows as the talks continue. A bridge over the Dniester was blown up today in Novyye Aneny Rayon. A total of 4,500 people have left Dubossary since the conflict began, with most going to Russia or Ukraine.

Agreement on Principles

AU0605093392 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 0400 GMT 6 May 92

[Gabriel Ionescu report from Chisinau]

[Excerpts] The conciliatory commission for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Eastern rayons of the Republic of Moldova will resume its meeting today at 1400 in Tighina, Mr. Mihai (?Zagarovan), president of the local administration section of the Moldovan republic's state chancery and member of the conciliatory commission said. A statement of the conciliatory commission is to be published after this second round of talks. [passage omitted]

During yesterday's meeting Moldova's First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Constantin Oboroc, head of the Moldovan delegation in the conciliatory commission, presented the basic principles of the republic's leadership meant to lead to the peaceful settlement of the conflict. The representative of Moldova said that the principle according to which the Republic of Moldova is an independent, united, and undivided country could be a common starting point in the conciliation process and could reassure the people living in the conflict regions that this process will be accomplished and life will return to normal. The other four basic principles stipulate: Use of force as a solution of the political conflict to be unconditionally given up; circumstances allowing for a guaranteed cease-fire and for the introduction of military observers in the conflict zone are to be ensured; concrete steps aimed at the settlement of conflict will take into account the recommendations made by the foreign ministers [of Moldova, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine] during their four-way talks; deputies of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova—who were elected on the left

bank of the Dniester River—are to return to parliament and participate in its meetings.

The representatives of Tiraspol, headed by the vice president of the so-called Dniester Republic, Mr. Alexandru Caraman, made a statement in which they expressed their stand. In it they endorsed the principle that the conflict ought to be settled politically, also mentioning that the actions of the destructive forces—which are not interested in a peaceful settlement—and of certain saboteur groupings—which cause considerable economic prejudice—have become more intense lately.

During the second half of yesterday's meeting the parties agreed upon the majority of expressed principles, deciding to continue talks today. [passage omitted]

Local Administrations Attempt To Settle Conflict

OW0505102392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0951 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to reports from the Dniester River valley, residents of the two banks have decided not to wait for politicians in Chisinau and Tiraspol to agree on the settlement of the conflict. They insisted on the Monday [4 April] meeting of the heads of local administrations from Grigoriopol and Novo-Anensky regions where concrete aspects of the surrender of arms and the restoration of old ties between Moldovan and Russian-speaking communities were discussed.

Similar meetings are to take place today between Slobodzei and Shtefan-Vode regions, Bendery and Kaushan region. Their leaders are sure they will find a common language.

Meanwhile, according to the Moldovan Interior Ministry, last night Dniester home guards blasted a bridge across the Dniester in the village of Gura-Bykului linking Grigoriopol and Novo-Anensky regions. Sources in Tiraspol place the responsibility for the act of sabotage on the Moldovan side.

There are also reports about an exchange of fire between the Moldovan police and Dniester home guards in the area of Korzhov. Preliminary reports say no one was hurt.

Government To Prevent Patrol Boat Withdrawal

LD0505144392 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1452 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Chisinau—Moldova Interior Ministry is taking steps not to allow withdrawal of border cutters from the republic. According to the information obtained by PF [POSTFACTUM] from sources close to the republican Interior Ministry, Ryshkanskiy, Yedinetskiy and Klodyanskiy district police received the order to establish control over cutters at Chisinau border unit outposts.

Kazakhstan

Deputy Premier on Nuclear Arms Withdrawal

AU0605091892 Vienna Oesterreich Eins Radio Network in German 0500 GMT 6 May 92

[Interview with Kazakh Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets by Jochen Bendele in Klagenfurt; date not given—recorded; Soskovets statements in Russian with superimposed German translation]

[Text] [Bendele] It was only a few years ago that millions of people in the vicinity of the nuclear test site of Semipalatinsk began to understand the effects of the more than 400 nuclear explosions under and above ground. It has been assumed that some 500,000 people have been negatively affected, with consequences for the following generations. There is evidence of an increase in the infant mortality rate as a result of cancer and tuberculosis.

So what is the situation really like there?

[Soskovets] Unfortunately, I cannot give you any concrete figures, because we do not have any. Nevertheless, it is true that there are people who bear visible signs of the effects of radiation. We are now taking measures to avoid further risks.

[Bendele] What measures?

[Soskovets] The president recently banned such tests. The scientific-technological center, which used to serve military purposes, is now used by the authorities as a civilian institution.

[Bendele] Experts have worked out that the rehabilitation program would require 500 million rubles. Is Kazakhstan able to raise such large amounts of money despite the economic crisis?

[Soskovets] It is possible that the operation will cost even more. Nevertheless, there is no alternative. We have to do something to improve the situation there.

[Bendele] Nuclear opponents have claimed that Russia is planning to resume nuclear arms tests. Can you rule out such plans for Kazakhstan?

[Soskovets] As far as Russia is concerned, you have to ask Yeltsin. Our policy is aimed at removing all nuclear arms from our territory.

[Bendele] International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War have demanded that Russia, Byelarus, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan be declared nuclear-free zones. Can you support such a demand as far as Kazakhstan is concerned.

[Soskovets] Yes, absolutely.

Tereshchenko's German Visit 'Doomed to Success'

OW0505163592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1600 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The government delegation headed by the republic's prime minister Sergey Tereshchenko departed from Alma-Ata to Germany last Monday [4 May] night.

In an interview for INTERFAX correspondent, Kazakhstan's Cabinet of Ministers dubbed the visit as "doomed" to success. On May 8-9, the premier and his delegation will take part in a conference in Muenster on the most effective forms of economic cooperation between East and West. The visit's itinerary also envisages the delegation's meetings with German Vice Chancellor Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and managers of German leading banics and firms. The visit will primarily address the projects for the countries' economic cooperation based on the proposals prepared by Kazakhstan's government following their negotiations with the German delegation headed by Jurgen Melleman this February.

IF's [INTERFAX] note: On the suggestion of the German businessmen who visited Alma-Ata in February, the two countries agreed to set up a Kazakh-German cooperation council which includes representatives of both governments, as well as heads of the leading branches of economy and the science research centers. A market economy consultative group, representing various German lands, was working in Kazakhstan, their efforts materializing in the federal government's decision to open a credit line for Kazakhstan. Of all the Commonwealth countries, only Kazakhstan has provided the required collateral for the credits it wants to receive (the republic guarantees reimbursement by its raw-material resources, such as oil, coal, and non-ferrous metals). Several days ago, the KAZVNESHEKONOMBANK on the one hand, and the consortium AKA of the German banks, on the other, signed an export credit insurance agreement for Kazakhstan. Presently, claiming German credits are about 40 major industrial enterprises of the republic, including such industrial giants as "Dzhezkazgantsvetmet" (copper casting), "Karagandaugol" (coal mining), the Paviodar Tractor Factory, and others. According to the information provided by Kazakhstan's Cabinet of Ministers, the German side is fully content with the technological and economic foundations of the projects provided by those enterprises, especially, in the area of adopting new technologies.

Officials Discuss Ethnic Germans

LD0605084192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1403 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Kalintsev]

[Excerpts] Bonn, 5 May—Preparation for the first official visit to Germany by Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev this summer was the focus of meetings held in Bonn by Sergey Tereshchenko, head of the

Kazakhstan Government. He is here on a working visit at the invitation of German Economic Minister Jurgen Mollemann. [passage omitted]

Problems of the Germans of Kazakhstan, Sergey Tereshchenko mentioned in a conversation with the ITAR-TASS correspondent, were broadly discussed in a conversation with Friedrich Bohl, head of the federal chancellor's office, and, especially, at a meeting with Horst Waffenschmidt, parliamentary secretary of state under the foreign minister, who is simultaneously the Federal Government's authorized agent for migrants. Mutual interest was expressed to the effect that the Germans should stay in Kazakhstan and that they should be able to live and work freely there. A joint German-Kazakh commission will be set up which will deal with solving all these problems. Our delegation has brought a number of concrete proposals on developing the culture and language of ethnic Germans. They include, inter alia, the establishment of direct telephone link between Germany and Kazakhstan, the broadcasting of German television programs in the republic, the development of publishing, and the training of specialists and teachers of the German language in Germany. It is important that not only Germans but citizens of other nationalities take part in all these projects, too. There is such an understanding on the German side, the prime minister stressed.

According to him, establishing and developing contacts with German firms which are prepared to cooperate with Kazakhstan is one of the goals of the trip. We have not come to ask for help, we are not a poor state. We would like to cooperate on a mutually advantageous basis, Sergey Tereshchenko said. He pointed out also that concluding its stay in Germany the Kazakhstan delegation will attend the meeting of the ministers of trade and economy of seven leading industral countries in Munster on 7-9 May. Russia, Ukraine, Byelarus, and countries of Eastern and Central Europe have been invited to attend, besides Kazakhstan.

Today the head of the Kazakhstan Government and those accompanying him arrived in Hanover, the main city of Lower Saxony with which Kazakhstan maintains partnership links. Work for establishing economic links with leading Germans firms will be continued. The visitors from Kazakhstan familiarized themselves with the way Hanover airport operates. There are plans to establish a direct air link between Hanover and the capital of Kazakhstan.

The Kazakhstan delegation will attend a sitting of the Landtag tomorrow. Gerhard Schroeder, prime minister of the land government, will give a dinner honoring Sergey Tereshchenko and those accompanying him.

Minister Receives U.S. Ambassador to CSCE

LD0505221292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1623 GMT 5 May 92

[By KAZTAG correspondent Leila Tulebayeva—TASS]

[Text] Alma-Ata May 5—The foreign minister of Kazakhstan, Tolevtay Suleymenov, today received the U.S. ambassador to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), John Maresca.

They exchanged views on the question of full-fledged participation of Kazakhstan in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Various aspects of the development of the Helsinki process, and the pace of preparation for the forthcoming CSCE functions were also discussed. John Maresca emphasised the importance of Kazakhstan's participation in increasing the role of this international forum.

Both sides noted the significance of the forthcoming visit of Kazakhstan's president, Nursultan Nazarbayev, to the capital of Finland in July which is aimed at signing of the concluding document of the Helsinki conference.

Tajikistan

Situation in Dushanbe 'Sharply' Deteriorates

LD0505190392 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Armed clashes have begun in Dushanbe today. There are already some dead and wounded. Here is how the events developed: In the morning two meetings were held in Dushanbe again—that of the opposition, under the green banner of Islam, at the Shakhidon square, and a meeting under the red banners of the Soviet Union at the Ozodi Square. By 1200 the number of participants in the meetings reached 100,000.

In response to President Nabiyev's decree on creating the National Guard the opposition has began to form people's defense units. By 1200 about 20,000 had joined in. The opposition insists on the reforms within the government structures and reduction of the administration apparatus.

At around 1700 a group of demonstrators blocked the television center building in Dushanbe. Because of this we could not receive any reports. Our correspondent has reported over the telephone that this afternoon the leadership of the republic made an appeal which said that the opposition has embarked on drastic actions.

There was a call to protect homes. At around 1700 the first shots were made near the village of Leninskiy and Yavan. A group of local inhabitants was fired at. Three of them were killed and 11 wounded. It is known that the presidential palace in Dushanbe is guarded by APCs [armored personnel carriers] and the soldiers are armed with combat weapons. Here is what our correspondent has just reported over the telephone from Dushanbe:

[Sergey Shatunov] The social and political situation in Dushanbe has sharply deteriorated since the opposition

supporters took over the local television and President Nabiyev issued a decree on introducing the state of emergency and curfew in Dushanbe between 2000 and 0500 local time.

At present the opposition supporters are making broadcasts on the republican television while the local radio is in the hands of the president's suppporters.

State of Emergency Declared

LD0505181792 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1712 GMT 5 May 92

[Decree by Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev on declaration of state of emergency and curfew in the city of Dushanbe issued in Dushanbe on 5 May—read by announcer]

[Text] In view of the extremely critical situation in the city of Dushanbe, with the aim of preventing a violation of public order and to normalize the situation, I decree:

1. That a state of emergency be declared in the city of Dushanbe as of 5 May and a curfew from 2100 until 0500;

2. During the period of the state of emergency in the city of Dushanbe:

a. Protection of public order and of enterprises vitally important for people's living and the national economy should be strengthened.

b. Holding of rallies, marches, demonstrations, and creating checkpoints are prohibited.

c. Strikes are prohibited.

d. Activities of all parties, popular movements, and other social organizations are banned.

e. Movement of transportation vehicles should be limited, and they should be searched.

f. In the event of any signs of weapons being held by the citizens, they [word indistinct] and their vehicles should be searched.

g. Individual citizens are for a specified period prohibited from leaving their area and homes. People who violate public order and are not residents of the city of Dushanbe should voluntarily return to their permanent place of residence or be forced out of the city.

3. Law-enforcement bodies should prosecute in accordance with the law all those individuals who participate in group crimes.

4. The head of Dushanbe garrison should bring all military units of the garrison to full combat readiness.

5. Major General Mamadjanov, the military commissar of the Republic of Tajikistan, be appointed the commander of the area of the city of Dushanbe. Rajabbov, first deputy minister of internal affairs, and Kaharov, deputy minister of internal affairs, be appointed deputy commanders.

[Signed] Rakhman Nabiyev, president of Tajikistan; 5 May 1992; the city of Dushanbe.

New National Security Chief Named

LD0505185192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 5 May 92

[Excerpts] The situation in Dushanbe has sharply deteriorated over the last few hours. Correspondent Aleksandr Ryabinok is at the microphone:

[Ryabinok] [passage omitted] President Rakhman Nabiyev has issued a decree on appointing Rezo (Tursunov) chairman of the National Security Committee and has relieved Safarali Kenjayev, who has not had time to demonstrate his abilities in this post. He currently heads the republican Supreme Soviet again, contrary to the opposition's demands. The situation in the republic is extremely heated.

Opposition Seizes TV Center

LD0505184392 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1815 GMT 5 May 92

[Announcement by the Tajik Government]

[Text] To the people of Tajikistan:

As it is understood from the speeches by the representatives of opposition forces, they have [words indistinct] captured the television center.

Those who say that they are in the ranks of the people of Tajikistan and say they (?have stopped) the activity of its legal government are misleading people. We ask all of you not to believe nonsense. The Government of Tajikistan is firmly in its position and is functioning actively. Although a state of emergency and a curfew were declared in the city of Dushanbe as of 2100 on 5 May, neither the militia nor the national guard nor the people gathering in Ozodi Square have shot or punished anyone.

Therefore, be calm, and at the same time be aware. Everyone should defend his home and his place of work, be friends with each other, be united, and support the legal government of Tajikistan. Due to technical reasons the television of Tajikistan cannot broadcast its (?programs) outside the city of Dushanbe and districts near it. Please listen to official reports on Tajik radio.

Opposition Appeal Read on TV

LD0605071492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0552 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 6 May—It seems that the threat of a civil war against which both the opposition and the government supporters had warned has become a reality. Yesterday the opposition took over the national television building and the presidential palace. According to unconfirmed reports the airport is also in the hands of the opposition.

During the evening and the night there were armed clashes between subunits of the governmental National Guard and the opposition people's front. There are casualties. Also yesterday Sheraliyev, a republican people's deputy, editor of the republican parliamentary newspaper SADOI MURODAMI, was killed by unidentified individuals right in front of the Supreme Soviet building, where supporters of the government are holding their rally. There are no details.

The city has plunged into total chaos. Opposition supporters have blocked all roads leading to the Tajik capital. At checkpoints transport as well as people are being thoroughly checked to prevent any arms traffic. Public transportation is totally paralyzed.

Appeals from the opposition to fellow citizens to remain calm and to avoid provocations are read on the national television. Assurances that human rights will be guaranteed are also given. The appeals underline that the opposition was forced to take these measures by the leadership of the republic, including President Rakhman Nabiyev, who was unable to control the political situation in the republic and took the path of confrontation between two groups of the population. There are also calls to the Russian-speaking population of the republic, urging it not to play the "Russian card, to remain neutral".

President Rakhman Nabiyev also addressed the people of Tajikistan on the radio. He, too, called upon his compatriots to remain courageous and calm during these difficult days, to make their choice and to defend the republican constitutution. He assured the people that the leadership will do their utmost to prevent the conflagration of civil war from flaring up.

Tajik radio has just reported that an attack on the airport building was repelled by the presidential National Guard.

At the time when this report is being transmitted, submachine gun fire can be heard on Rudaki Prospekt. It is not yet known who is firing since both sides have weapons. The formation of self-defence detachments aimed at protecting residential homes has begun in the town's residential areas.

Radio Discounts Opposition Statements

LD0505204492 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1900 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Speeches by representatives of the political parties—the Islamic Rebirth Party and the Democratic Party of Tajikistan—which are being broadcast temporarily via the forcibly captured television, portray realities in an incorrect manner. In particular, speeches by Bozor Sabir, Rahim Musulmanian, journalist (Bahrinisa), Muhammadali (Hayatov), Ahmadshah Kamilov, and so on contain unspeakable falsehoods and accusations concerning the legal leadership of the republic: Rakhman Nabiyev, Safarali Kenjayev, and Narzullo Dustov.

By spitefully taking advantage of this temporary opportunity, they spit all the grudges, enmity, hatred, and anger they have in mind against the radio and television of Tajikistan. The reason for this is that the radio and television, in fact, do not broadcast their so-called democratic and antipeople objectives.

This group—be they poets or scholars, political workers or clergy—does the job of an enemy wearing the clothes of righteousness.

The interests of the people never have been their main objective. Instead they are after high positions, using the [words indistinct] poor people as ladders, though they do not regard themselves as position seekers. This, however, is a sheer lie. Their aim goes even beyond this. They want to ruin the current structure of Tajikistan, to discredit its legal leaders, and to establish another structure. God knows whether it will be Islamic or something else.

Therefore, we request that you dear listeners make your own judgments and that you separate black from white for yourselves.

CIS Troops 'Maintaining Neutrality'

LD0605083892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0800 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 6 May—"Reports that Dushanbe city airport has been blockaded by border troops are false," Colonel Aleksandr Suvorov, head of the CIS Border Troops press center, told the ITAR- TASS correspondent today. The sub-units of border troops stationed in the Tajik capital, he went on to say, are maintaining neutrality and are not intervening in the conflict between the opposition and the republican leadership. "All that has been done is to step up the guard on a number of military installations, including the border air unit stationed at the airport, which is evidently what sparked off the rumors and false interpretations."

Due to the events in Tajikistan the guard on the border has also been strengthened. This is linked to the fact that the probability is not excluded that large consignments of weapons will find their way into the republic from the Afghan side, Aleksandr Suvorov said in conclusion.

Opposition Seizes Presidential Palace

LD0605125892 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1050 GMT 6 May 92

[From the "Politics" section]

[Text] Dushanbe—Opposition supporters seized without a single shot the presidential palace in Dushanbe on the night of May 5.

According to reports by the local television whose programmes are broadcast by opposition supporters since 9 a.m., the opposition keeps under its control the entire city, the airport, the railway terminal and motor roads. The number of casualties has not been clarified. According to various sources, from 4 to 65 people died.

Negotiations between opposition supporters and representatives of the government are currently under way. A protocol of an agreement signed on May 5 says that the situation in the capital is calm, the lawful government protects the citizens' security and is capable of returning the groups locked in confrontation to their homes. The protocol underscores the need to disarm and disband immediately the presidential guard battalion, introduce neutral forces to head off further clashes between participants in the two separate rallies, unblock the Ordzhonikidze street occupied by the opposition and help liberate the television studio.

The protocol was signed from the government by Vice-President Narzullo Dustov, Procurator General Nurullo Khuvaidullayev and others, and from the opposition—by Islamic Rebirth Party Chairman Mukhammadsharif Khimmatzoda and Democratic Party of Tajikistan leader Shodmon Yusupov.

Following the broadcast by the republican TV on the night of May 5, in which the opposition announced that a special group of the Ostankino television company in Tajikistan has videotapes of the events on the crossroads in Yavanskii and Leninskii districts, 20 kilometers from Dushanbe, and special correspondent of the Ostankino television studio Sergey Shatunov will go into the air with this information in the Moscow morning newscast on May 6, the republican Communications Ministry switched off both Russian channels and the channel of the Republic of Tajikistan. The ministry also halted the broadcast of the programmes of the republican TV occupied by the opposition. After this move, the opposition began broadcasting its programmes via all three channels. The republican radio is in the hands of the supporters of the government. An appeal by President Rakhman Nabiyev was broadcast by radio, in which Nabiyev calls upon the residents of Dushanbe to arm, defend their houses, their enterprises and help the government.

Nabiyev Appeals for Support

LD0605113792 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1059 GMT 6 May 92

[Address by Tajikistan President Rakhman Nabiyev to Tajik people; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Passage indistinct] In this question which determines our fate, I, as a president elected by the people, have decided to use all facilities available to defend the constitutional structure and the honor and dignity of every single one of you. I cannot, however, fulfill this task without your help. At these difficult moments, I ask you to unite around your legal president. I appeal to you, my dear people and honorable fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters. The homeland is in danger. Tajikistan and its inseparable integrity are in danger. To defend the constitutional structure, to defend our country, all people, young and old—in short, everyone to whom Tajikistan is dear—should arise and be united. I have full faith that our work is right. Truth prevails. We build our democratic republic and our structural [word indistinct]. Our aim is one and clear and we will definitely succeed.

Guard Commander Joins Opposition

OW0605132992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1303 GMT 6 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Tajik president's ex-military adviser and Commander of the Tajik National Guard, Major-General Bakhrom Rakhmonov told IF [INTERFAX] that he had taken the side of the opposition and surrendered the presidential palace without battle to avoid senseless bloodshed. He also urged the president's supporters to lay down arms and not to fight.

Rakhmonov said that the Tajik president is now in the parliament building which is guarded by a special battalion supporting the government. He also said that the opposition leaders are having talks with the government.

Speaking on television which is also controlled by the opposition, member of the board of the Rastokhez popular movement, Makhmadali Khaitov, said that the death of only 3 people had been confirmed. Earlier, the opposition reported that 20 people had been killed.

Tajik Minister of Communication Ibragim Usmanov told IF that post and telegraph offices, telephone and radio were functioning normally in Dushanbe.

Attack on Radio Station Repelled

LD0605141592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1407 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe May 6 TASS—Opposition supporters attempted to seize a local radio station in Tajik capital Dushanbe today. The attackers arrived in two armoured personnel carriers. Several warning shots were fired. The attackers were repelled by the OMON [special purpose militia] troops. According to unconfirmed reports there had also been an attempt to block the building of the Interior Ministry.

The television center is still controlled by the opposition, which is using it to broadcast appeals to the public to remain calm and not support the republican leadership. Videoclips of Tuesday's [5 May] storming of the presidential palace are also being broadcast. Former adviser of President Nabiyev, who sided with the opposition, has been accorded the rank of "People's General." He is leading people's militia.

Opposition spokesmen denied an official radio report about a shoot-out at the Shakhidon Square. The opposition confirmed that a shoot-out had happened, saying that it occurred in Ozodi Square where two armed groups of government supporters clashed.

Government and presidential telephone lines are still silent. The reaction of official authorities on developments in Dushanbe is not known.

The local radio continues to broadcast an address by President Nabiev, taped on Tuesday. It is unclear who controls power in republic.

Armenia

More Attacks on Stepanakert Reported

LD0505213292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 5 May 92

[Report by Armen Dulyan, Yerevan correspondent of the SNARK information agency, on the latest situation in Nagorno-Karabakh]

[Text] The capital of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic was subjected to intensive shelling from Shusha throughout the entire day of 5 May. Communications with Stepanakert have been practically interrupted. According to sporadic information, which is coming from there, the Azerbaijani army is continuing its offensive on the town. Intense fighting is taking place in the outskirts of the capital. The Armenian self-defense forces and home guard are so far repelling the attack. Stepanakert finds itself in a critical situation.

Since early morning, other settlements in Nagorno-Karabakh have also been subjected to intensive artillery fire. There have been people killed and wounded. Shelling of Armenian border villages has intensified from the Azerbaijani side at the same time.

Members of the Armenian Government went to the border with Nakhichevan to get acquainted with the situation on 5 May. The situation in the border regions was discussed in parliament today. Deputies proposed setting up a special temporary commission and granting it the powers of a permanent commission.

Mario Raffaelli, the chairman of the Minsk International Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh, arrived in Yerevan during the evening of 5 May. He had a meeting with Raffi Hovannisian, the Armenian foreign minister, and then with President Levon Ter-Petrosyan. Issues relating to preparations for the forthcoming conference in Minsk were discussed. Mario Raffaelli is also going to go to Baku, and then to visit Nagorno-Karabakh. However, the situation there is heated to such an extent that at present it is not known whether he will be able to make this trip.

In the meantime, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, the president of Armenia, will fly to Tehran on 6 May. There he will possibly have a meeting with the leadership of Azerbaijan.

Cease-Fire Linked To Lifting of Blockade

NC0505175992 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 5 May 92

["Communique issued by the Armenian Foreign Ministry"—ARMENPRES headline]

[Text] Yerevan, 5 May (ARMENPRES)—The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's [NKR] economic situation has become exceedingly acute as a result of relentless artillery shelling and a blockade on settlements. The endless shelling of Stepanakert's airport makes it impossible to import vital goods. The food shortage has reached frightful proportions. The situation was aggravated further by the stoppage of power, water, and gas supplies.

Joint efforts of Turkey and Azerbaijan prevent humanitarian assistance intended for NKR from reaching its destination. All the CSCE agreements on opening up humanitarian corridors for Karabakh are being violated. The Azerbaijani side is consistently exterminating NKR's population, both by condemning it to starvation and through the use of arms.

Commenting on the situation, Armenian Foreign Minister Raffi Hovannisian noted that if the humanitarian assistance does not reach NKR immediately and if Azerbaijan does not life its blockade "the people might reach such a state of desperation that it would be difficult to implement the cease-fire being worked out through international efforts. The Armenian Government attaches enormous importance to the Minsk meeting within the CSCE framework. The success of that meeting is contingent upon the immediate creation of conditions for the security of life of the peaceful population in Nagorno-Karabakh."

Envoy Considers Nagorno-Karabakh Options

AU2904130992 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 27 Apr 92 p 4

[Article by Asot Melik-Shakhnazarov, a former Soviet career diplomat who now acts on behalf of Armenia as an extraordinary and plenipotentiary envoy: "Resolving the Conflict: Possible Variants"]

[Text] The international community has at last realized that it is necessary for it to participate in resolving the Karabakh conflict. The diplomatic maneuvers of Russia and Kazakhstan, the statements by Turkey, and the activity of Iran are all well known. These are merely endeavors aimed at creating the prerequisites for a future solution, however. Delays mean more bloodshed and more losses for the small (approximately 200,000-strong) nation in this agrarian country, a nation condemned to suffering and resolved to continue its struggle for existence and to halt the historical process involving the constant whittling away of the territory in which Armenians live.

Today the conflict has swept across borders and is threatening to destabilize the international situation. In this situation the Armenian population of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic is staking considerable hope in the CSCE mission headed by CSFR Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and in the international conference on resolving the Karabakh conflict due to begin in Minsk.

The selection of the conference participants—Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Byelarus, the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Sweden, and Czechoslovakia—is ordained by their CSCE membership. It is clear even to the laity, however, that a solution to the Karabakh conflict cannot be effective without the participation of

countries such as Georgia and Iran. Let us not forget that guarantors will be necessary to ensure agreements are adhered to. A future solution is unthinkable without the participation of Iran as one of the guarantors, because the other contender for this role—Turkey—is stigmatized by the genocide of 1915 and by the aggression in Karabakh and Nakhichevan of 1918-20 that caused the deaths of almost two million Armenians. Turkey, therefore, cannot be considered a neutral country.

The fact that, from the point of view of international law, the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh was the subject of a long-running dispute between Iran and Russia is also in Iran's favor. Therefore, right from the beginning Iran should have been invited to the conference as an observer or a guest. Naturally, an official delegation from the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (NKR)—which, along with Azerbaijan, is immediately involved in the conflict—must also take part in the conference.

It is necessary to fulfill certain prerequisites—such as a cease-fire, an exchange of all prisoners of war and hostages, the reopening of the telephone network and roads, including roads between the NKR and Armenia in order to facilitate the delivery of food aid to the population of Nagorno-Karabakh, which is on the verge of starvation—so that the conference can begin its work. A mixed commission involving international observers, whose participation is essential in the zone of conflict, could check the contents of the consignments delivered.

As far as the solution itself is concerned, there is quite a broad selection of options—from complete independence for the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic based on the universally recognized right to self-determination, to cultural autonomy within the structure of Azerbaijan. Between these mutually exclusive options lie two groups of other possibilities that envisage various degrees of independence or autonomy for the NKR and various levels of relations with the Azerbaijani Republic.

In my opinion, it is impossible to take the proposal for cultural autonomy seriously because such autonomy would be a step backwards in comparison to the status Nagorno-Karabakh had prior to the conflict. Reinstituting the autonomy that existed previously—the so-called return to the status quo—is also unacceptable, because Karabakh Armenians have been struggling against this for more than 70 years. For this reason, the variant involving joining Azerbaijan on a federative basis (along with Nakhichevan and, possibly, the federative structures of the Lezgins, Kurds, and Talysh) cannot be accepted. The status of Nagorno-Karabakh as an autonomous region was in fact a federative form of its admission into Azerbaijan.

In my view, a realistic solution to the conflict lies somewhere in the middle. This involves the possible inclusion of an autonomous Nagorno-Karabakh Republic as a member of the confederation into which the current Azerbaijani Republic could be transformed. I assume that Azerbaijan, in order to keep Nagorno-Karabakh within its borders, will have to accede to such a solution. Another possible solution to the situation is the NKR's admission into the current Azerbaijan structure on a treaty basis or by a form of affiliation. This would also have to be determined by a special treaty.

The ultimate goal of the Karabakh Armenians is official, complete, independence. So far, Azerbaijan disagrees with all the options that include any degree of independence within Azerbaijan. If the Azerbaijani leadership is really striving for a political solution, however, and does not prefer a military solution (which would only be successful if the Armenians were completely annihilated), then reaching an agreement on the basis of one of these options is quite realistic.

The Republic of Armenia has proclaimed that it is prepared to accept a solution that satisfies the NKR. Real peace in this region is only possible if the rights of the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh, which now accounts for 85 percent of the country's population, are unconditionally recognized and respected. On the other hand, there is a risk that the issue will not be resolved and the status quo will be maintained, that is, the NKR's actual independence defended by force of arms—a kind of "Israeli" option. This would endanger not only the territory on Russia's southern borders, but the rest of the world as well.

Today, unfortunately, this variant is the most likely one, because Azerbaijan's inflexibility gives Karabakh Armenians no other choice but to take up arms and defend themselves.

Vice Premier on Republic's 'Desperate' Plight

PM0505130592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Sergey Bablumyan report on interview with Armenian Vice Premier Ruben Chiftalaryan; place and date not given: "'Armenia's Position Is Desperate'"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] Yerevan—In an interview with IZVESTIYA republic Vice Premier Ruben Chiftalaryan described as desperate the situation in which Armenia finds itself as a result of the periodic lengthy transport blockades.

To those who are constantly suffering the hardships of blockade life, this assessment will not seem exaggerated. Plants and factories are closing down, unemployment is increasing, transportation is grinding to a halt, and parents have nothing to feed their children with.... Meanwhile thousands of tonnes of national economic freight bound for Armenia are being pilfered on Azerbaijan's railroads.

The history of the Armenian blockades, the vice premier reminded us, dates back to December 1988, immediately after the destructive earthquake. The blockades were then repeated many times over and, alas, became a normal

occurrence in our once unified state. All because the country's supreme leadership at the time did not consider it necessary to decisively halt this scandalous lawlessness. But if an evil remains unpunished it gathers momentum, and now we see that Armenia is not the only one suffering as a result of it. Today in any region of the CIS you can quite calmly block any railroad or highway and, by cutting off oxygen to millions of absolutely innocent people, demand that political ultimatums be met.

It is now clear that the well known agreement "On the Basic Principles of Operations in the CIS Over the Transitional Period" is not working. Everybody continues to pretend that nothing is happening.

Meanwhile, Ruben Chiftalaryan says, the most frightening thing is happening—the science of hatred is being offered as a textbook in mutual relations between people.

The legal free-for-all on the territory of the once united state threatens us all with a great deal of trouble, the vice premier stressed, and it is not just confined to Armenia—tomorrow the torch of lawlessness could be handed on to other regions. Talk about a civilized society is not worth a dime until we, each CIS country, raise our voices in protest and recognize the plain truth—it is everybody's problem...

Stop press: For the fifth day now the natural gas transported from Turkmenistan across Azerbaijan has not reached the republic. The movement of trains entering Armenia via the Azerbaijani branch line has again been stopped.

Legislature Said To Pursue 'Political Goals'

OW0505162392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1559 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Relations between Armenia's executive and legislative worsened in Armenia, said president press service staffer in an interview with IF [INTERFAX].

The press-service says that the recent rejection by parliament of the presidential plan for economic transformations was the result of the parliament being excessively politicized. "By throwing out the program of the Cabinet and Ter-Petrosyan, the parliament pursued political goals but did not make a concrete remark."

Touching on the press and political circles-voiced opinion concerning the expediency of the dissolution of the present parliament and calling new elections, the press-service representative said: "The Supreme Soviet can lay out its jurisdiction and work productively. The president believes that in this case it is enough to give a double right—to him and to the Supreme Soviet—to express dissent and eliminate and dissolve state institutions. This is fully true of the presidential post itself. There must be a system for constant mutual control."

Touching on relations between president and opposition, the press-service representative said, "Opposition is natural in any democratic society, but opposition is not organized in Armenia. It pursues narrow party interests in an attempt to criticize the work of the government. There is no opposition that while criticizing the program of the government's activities, would present its own programs and proposals. Active and constructive work is impossible with our opposition."

Ministries Asked To Help With Conscription

NC0505131992 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1850 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Fulfilling the president's decree on conscription in spring 1992, the Armenian Government on 29 April organized the military call-up.

The republic's Defense Ministry, military commissariat, and the executive committees of the rayon, city, and city-rayon soviets will organize the scheduled drafting of Armenian citizens into military service between May and June 1992.

The Interior Ministry, main transport directorate, the Ministry of Higher Education and Science, and the Ministry of Education also have particular responsibilities.

The republic's military commissar, Colonel Levon Stepanyan, said: The novelty is that the decision requires various ministries to help the Defense Ministry and the military commissariat to organize the conscription. This underlines that conscription is a national endeavor on which the government is focusing attention. Drafting covers those born between 1970-1973, who have not yet served, and those born in 1974. They will all serve in Armenia. A defense ministers meeting in Moscow on 15 May will discuss the issue of completing military service outside Armenia. Conscription started on 1 May and the first (?conscripts) will be turned over to the Defense Ministry soon. Despite all the measures, some young men are avoiding the call-up. They will be punished to the extent the law allows. We have already submitted a dozen names to the prosecutor general and criminal proceedings have been instituted. I must reiterate that defending the fatherland has always been considered sacred and our approach toward conscription should be in line with this.

DOSAAF To Transfer to Defense Ministry

NC0505132392 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1700 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] What is the situation on Armenia's borders? How are the republic's defenses being organized? To what extent are vital republic activities being ensured? A special expanded meeting of the Armenian Council of Ministers Presidium debated these questions, directors of ministries and departments also taking part.

Vice President and Prime Minister Gagik Arutyunyan presented the general situation, noting particularly that

ministries and departments should concentrate on comprehensively solving the border regions' problems.

Following reports delivered by State Minister Grach Akobyan and head of the State Directorate for Emergency Situations Stepan Badalyan, a debate ensued, during which concrete proposals were put forward and positions clarified on solving defense problems, keeping the communications system running smoothly, opening alternative routes, generating power, ensuring foodstuffs and fuel supply, and addressing other problems.

It was decided to transfer DOSAAF [Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy] defense and technical capabilities to the Armenian Defense Ministry.

Talks on Exchanging Goods on Blocked Rail Cars

NC0205100392 Yerevan Armenia's Radio International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic authorities have appealed to the leadership of Armenia's Megrinskiy Rayon to conduct talks on the exchange of rail cars. This refers to the Nakhichevan-bound train that is now standing at Megri station. It is loaded with various goods for the national economy. The Azerbaijani side is proposing that these goods be exchanged with flour and fuel on rail cars bound for Megri and Kapan, which are being held up by the Azerbaijanis. The talks are continuing.

Nagorno-Karabakh Authorities Appeal for Aid

LD0105174692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1652 GMT 1 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 1 May—The leadership of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic has appealed to all countries in the world for "urgent humanitarian aid for the population of Nagorno-Karabakh which is on the verge of ruin." The Nagorno-Karabakh Supreme Soviet press center statement distributed today says that "the economic situation here has sharply deteriorated because of the unabating artillery shelling of populated areas and the continuing blockade of the republic." Hunger has ensued in Stepanakert. Power and water supplies are nonexistent. The gas supply was cut off on 29 April. Cases of illness and mortality, especially among children, have risen.

Since the beginning of this year, Stepanakert has been subjected to bombardment 170 times. A total of 4,253 shells and rockets, including over 2,000 from "Grad" launchers, have been fired at the capital of Nagorno-Karabakh. This year 90 civilians have been killed and 268 wounded. Some 612 houses and other structures have been destroyed and damaged. The majority of the wounded die because of the acute shortage of medicine, the statements says.

Engineer on 'Catastrophic' Shortage of Gas

LD0605061192 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0500 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The main engineer of the Armgazprom [Armenian gas industry] production association, Galasyan, has assessed the situation with gas supplies to Armenia as catastrophic. The republic has about 2 million cubic meters of gas left, which is only sufficient to supply the capital Yerevan for one day.

The grave situation is aggravated by the fact that gas supplies from Turkmenistan via Georgia have stopped.

Pontoon Bridge To Link Armenia With Iran

LD0305102292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] The construction of a pontoon bridge across the Araks river, which separates Armenia and Iran, began on 1 May. This has been reported by the SNARK Agency. The bridge will link Megrinskiy rayon with the northern part of Iran and significantly liven up trade between the two countries.

Azerbaijan

Defense Ministry Denies Stepanakert Attack

NC0505192392 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense press center has disclosed the following:

A CSCE delegation arrived in the city of Agdam on 3 May. The delegation was headed by the chairman of the Vienna Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh, and was to have visited Khankendi [Stepanakert] and Shusha, but the Armenian side did not receive the representatives, so the guests returned to Baku.

[Words indistinct] were fired on from Armenian-inhabited Nakhichevanik and [words indistinct] with PDM's [track maintenance shops] and large-caliber machine guns from 2300 last night until 0100 this morning.

Kushchu Ayrum and Ashagy Askipara in Kazakhskiy Rayon were fired on from Armenia's Idzhevanskiy and Noyemberyanskiy Rayons with artillery guns all day on 4 May. No one was killed.

Alibeyli and Agdam in Tauzskiy Rayon were fired on from Armenia's Shamshadinskiy Rayon with various types of arms from 1100 to 1900 on 4 May. Twenty houses were damaged and four residents were wounded in Alibeyli. The fire was returned and the enemy was silenced. Casualties were inflicted on the Armenian side.

A militia post near Shynykh in Kedabekskiy Rayon was fired on from a passing Kamaz car in Armenia at 2100 on 4 May. One person was wounded in the attack.

Seidlyar, in Zangelanskiy Rayon, was fired on from Armenia's Kafanskiy Rayon with automatic firearms and machine guns from 2300 until midnight on 4 May. The enemy fire was returned.

Bakhadir, in Dzhebrailskiy Rayon, was fired on from Shagakh, in the former Gadrutskiy Rayon, with various types of weapons from 2300 last night to 0200 this morning. The fire was returned and the enemy was silenced.

[Word indistinct] and Dzhemilli in Fizulinskiy Rayon were fired on from Armenian-inhabited Kyrmyzy Bazar in Khodzhavendskiy Rayon last night. [passage indistinct]

Kapkara Koyunly in Gorenboyskiy Rayon was fired on from Talish in Agdara Rayon last night.

A report from Kel'badzharskiy Rayon has said that tracked vehicles and units of the Armenian Armed Forces have been observed assembling near Chapar in Agdara Rayon.

The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense press center has disclosed that the report on Russian television's "Vesti" program in connection with a multipronged attack on Khankendi is unfounded. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces have not planned any attack on Khankendi.

Foreign Ministry Protests Border Violation

LD0605082392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0700 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Foreign Affairs Ministry sent a protest note to Armenia in connection with violations of the Azerbaijani border on the Sadarak-Sharur sector, in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. According to the People's Front of Azerbaijan, fighting is continuing near the village of (?Sadarak): Over the last few days, 10 people have been killed and about 20 injured, the NEGA agency reports.

Mamedov Appoints Guseynov, Mutalibov to New Posts

OW0505171492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1559 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] By his Decree, dated May 4, Acting President of Azerbaijan Yagub Mamedov has promoted Ragim Guseynov, chairman of the State Economic and Planning Committee, to the post of first deputy prime minister. At his new appointment, Ragim Guseynov is expected to directly address the general concept of the republic's transition to market economy, and optimize Azerbaijan's economic sovereignty.

The other Decree appoints Rufat Agayev, the mayor of Baku in the government of ex-President Ayez Mutalibov, to the post of Vice Premier.

Mamedov Receives Visiting Egyptian Delegation

NC0505192692 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Yakub Mamedov, acting president and chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, received the visiting Egyptian delegation on 5 May. The delegation is headed by Minister of Education Dr. Husayn Kamil Baha'-al-Din. An exchange of views took place on the possibility of strengthening and broadening economic and cultural relations between the two countries. For example, the sides outlined their determination to contribute to developing relations in the educational field. They expressed the hope that establishing relations between schools and universities, exchanging students and scientific cadres, and organizing joint research work in various scientific fields will contribute toward strengthening cooperation between Azerbaijan and Egypt.

Dr. Baha'-al-Din conveyed a letter from President Mubarak to Yakub Mamedov.

[Name indistinct], presidential adviser, Feyzullayev, minister of education, and other officials attended the meeting.

Minister Rejects Reports on Currency Circulation

LD0105190292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0700 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Azerbaijan Deputy Finance Minister Azer Dzhafarov rejected reports that the national currency will be put into circulation on 15 June. Dzhafarov stressed that his department has not yet concluded contracts for printed money with foreign firms, but talks are under way with Iran and France, IMA-PRESS reports.

Baku Reports Power Supply to Nakhichevan Resumed

NC0205194692 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] After lengthy talks with Armenian leaders, the supply of power to Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] from Armenia's Araratskiy and Megrinskiy Rayons was resumed at 2300 on 1 May. The NAR sustained a loss of nearly 60,000,000 rubles as a result of Armenia's power blockade. Top officials of power supply facilities, railway administrations, and Armenian and NAR administrative organs held talks two days ago in Sadarak town on the Armenian border. Alasker Sadykhov, NAR first deputy prime minister, told an AZERINFORM correspondent that the sides gave mutual assurances on protecting transportation and [word indistinct] work. The sides agreed to resume rail movement to and from Armenia in the near future.

Power Blockade Resumed

LD0405192592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Reports from Baku say that this afternoon after a massive artillery fire Armenian armed formations with the support of armoured equipment attacked the village of Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. An AZERINFORM correspondent was told at the Defense Ministry of Azerbaijan that two female residents of the village were killed, and people have been wounded. By 1900 combat operations near Sadarak continued. The power blockade of the autonomous republic by Armenia has been resumed.

Minister Issuing Call Up to Military Service

LD0505054192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Our correspondent has reported from Azerbaijan that the republican minister of defense issued an order on a call up to active military service in May to June of this year. The term of service in the army and navy is two years, and in other branches of the service a year-and-a-half. A call up to an alternative service, labor service, is also to take place.

Meeting Supporting Former President Held in Baku

LD0505220592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1810 GMT 5 May 92

[By AZERINFORM correspondent Afaltyn Amashov—for TASS]

[Text] Baku, May 5 TASS—A meeting in support of the former president of Azerbaijan, Ayaz Mutalibov, was held near the republican Supreme Soviet building. Hundreds of participants in the meeting demanded an extraordinary parliamentary session be convened to review the resignation of the ex-president, which he was, according to protestors, forced to accept under duress.

Turkic Peoples Solidarity Rally Held in Baku

LD0305204892 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1500 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] A mass rally devoted to a day of solidarity between Turkic peoples was held today in Baku. It was called by the Azerbaijani Popular Front. Speakers said that the unity of fraternal peoples will help revive the authentic Turkic culture which has a history stretching back through the ages.

Christian Orthodox Newspaper Launched

PM2704114792 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 92 p 1

[Unidentified PRAVDA correspondent's report from the "Day by Day: 16-17 April" column: "May All Religions Flourish!"]

[Text] The announcement of the publication of the first issue of PRAVOSLAVNYY VESTNIK AZERBAYDZHANA [Orthodox Herald of Azerbaijan] came as a surprise to many politicians who claim that Azerbaijan has begun to actively slide toward Islamization and religious intolerance. This newspaper is aimed at Christians living on the republic's territory.

News Agencies Sign Cooperation Protocol

LD0305130992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1102 GMT 3 May 92

[By AZERINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Baku, May 3 TASS—A protocol on cooperation between the Azerbaijani news agency AZERINFORM and the Turkish ANATOLIAN News Agency was signed here today by the leaders of the two agencies, Fikret Sadykhov and Ceyhan Baytur.

The protocol envisages news exchanges on a currency-free basis, the setting up of correspondent's offices in the capitals of the two states, and the rendering of reciprocal technical assistance.

Hiwzi Topuz, a member of the Turkish Government delegation, who attended the signing ceremony, pointed out that the signing of the protocol marked the beginning of the establishment of a common information space of the independent states of the Turkic world. Ankara and Baku may become the centres of this common information space, Topuz believes.

An agreement to hold a meeting of the leaders of the news agencies of the Turkic-language countries of the former Soviet Union and Turkey in the second half of 1992 was reached during the meeting.

Georgia

S. Ossetia Calm After Russian Troop Withdrawal

LD0605095392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0937 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, May 6 TASS—A relatively calm situation is reported on the whole territory of South Ossetia. According to the Ministry of Interior and the press center of the Republican Information Committee, neither armed clashes on inter-ethnic ground nor seizures of hostages were reported over the last 24 hours.

After the withdrawal of the battalion of interior troops of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs from the Tskhinvali area, the Ossetian side is exerting control over the situation with the help of units of the Ossetian Guard and self-defense troops. They guard all approaches to the administrative center and important vital objects. The Georgian side relies on militia units stationed on the territory of the Goriy district.

According to Vladimir Kochiyev, the interior minister of South Ossetia, a tense crime situation remains in the republic despite the general stabilisation in the socio-political field. Over the last few days armed criminal groups paid special attention to a cantonment of a helicopter regiment which is being pulled out of Tskhinvali. Two attempts were made to capture weapons there.

The South Ossetian news media released today a text of a protocol signed by leaders of working groups of North and South Ossetia in Vladikavkaz in connection with the trilateral talks conducted there on the settlement of the armed conflict. The document says the two sides agreed with a conception of a stage-by-stage solution to the problem. They also approved a proposal to hold a tripartite meeting of working groups of North Ossetia, South Ossetia and Georgia in the first ten days of May in Vladikavkaz. Each party is expected to submit its proposals on the first stage of the talks. The North Ossetian side undertakes to invite the Georgian working group to participate in this meeting.

Armed Groups Not Disbanded Due To Instability

LD0505154992 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1303 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Tbilisi—Armed formations Mkhedriyoniy headed by First Deputy Chairman of the Georgian Council of State Jaba Ioseliyaniy, have so far abstained from the planned self-disbandment. A statement to this effect was made at a May 3 all-Georgia assembly of this organization which played a decisive role in deposing Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. Liquidation of Mkhedriyoniy should be carried out within the framework of a decision taken back in April by the Georgian State Council on creation of single armed forces of the republic. In an interview granted to Georgian Radio Jaba Ioseliyaniy said that this decision remains in force, but dissolution of his organization would have been premature today, since the situation in the republic is still unstable. Besides, it is necessary to solve social problems of Mkhedriyoniy fighters, which will take time. Neither has been disbanded the national guard of Tengiz Kitovaniy so far, which is to join the national armed forces as well.

State Council Appeals to Population for Peace

AU0505160492 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Apr 92 p 1, 4

["Message to the Population of Tskhinvali Region" from the Republic of Georgia State Council; place and date not given]

[Text] In December 1990, on account of the situation that had taken shape in Tskhinvali, a curfew was introduced. Its implementation was entrusted by decision of the authorities to special subunits of the internal troops of the former USSR.

This decision led to a further aggravation of relations between Georgians and Ossetians that were already extremely tense.

The legalized actions of the armed forces of another country in the conflict zone were accompanied by a sharp restriction of the powers of the Georgian Government and by a disregard of its jurisdiction. The logical consequence of all the aforementioned was arbitrariness and chaos.

Following the paralysis of the activities of the Georgian law enforcement organs in the region, facts of murder, cruel persecutions of people, and the desecration of graves became a common phenomenon. Up to today, more than 450 persons have been killed, hundreds have been wounded, and scores of people have disappeared without a trace on both sides. Approximately 5,000 homes have been destroyed and burned and thousands of native inhabitants of these places who have been separated from their homes have become refugees.

Since coming to power, the Georgian Provisional Government has been searching for peaceful ways of settling the conflict in the Tskhinvali region. It has repeatedly issued official statements and created a special commission whose undertakings are well known to the general public....

However, unfortunately, our peaceful initiatives have not brought any results. One of the reasons for this has been the actions of the troops of another state in Tskhinvali. In spite of the fact that, as early as last year, the presence of these armed forces in Georgia was deprived of any legal basis by a resolution of the Supreme Council, the actions of the troops of a foreign state have been continuing up until the last few days.

During the morning of 25 April of this year, special units of Russia's internal troops located in Tskhinvali abandoned their stationing locations and departed for their native land.

The native population of this very old corner of Georgia—both Georgians and Ossetians—was left to face one another, having suffered indescribable misfortune and pain!

We fully understand that, following so many disasters and terrible crimes, it is difficult, as yet, to speak about forgetting all that has happened and of reconciliation but it is essential to put a halt to the bloodshed and the killing and to bring to an end the armed confrontation!

History does not know of any interminable wars. Every war has its logical end. Negotiations between the warring sides form the finale of any war. The sooner negotiations begin, the fewer the number of victims there will be.

We appeal to you for calm. Enough bloodshed! Stop shooting, restore peaceful, good-neighborly relations between villages, and create the conditions so that refugees can return to their native homes.

Georgia's present authorities believe that it is answerable for the fate of each person living in the country irrespective of his or her nationality and it will do everything in order to achieve civic peace and accord and will not permit the infringement of human rights.

Rest assured that we consider the peaceful settlement of the Tskhinvali conflict as a state matter of the utmost importance.

A special committee has been formed. The chairman of this committee, who is, at the same time, the Republic of Georgia deputy prime minister in the sphere of interethnic relations and human rights, has been given instructions and has conferred with special powers in order to restore law and civic peace in the Tskhinvali region.

The Republic of Georgia State Council expects the newly formed committee to speedily begin negotiations between the opposing sides and calls upon them to actively join in the matter of settling the conflict by peaceful means.

Each Georgian citizen and the peaceful public should be convinced of the fact that Georgia is strictly observing the norms of international law that are particularly stipulated in the UN Charter, international pacts on human rights, and other agreements and also the requirements of the Helsinki, Vienna, Paris, and Moscow acts.

During this difficult time for Georgia, we call upon everyone to find within themselves the strength for mutual mercy and forgiveness.

The Republic of Georgia State Council

Explosion Causes Damage To Railway Track

LD2904195192 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1641 GMT 29 Apr 92

[From the "Accidents" section]

[Text] Tbilisi—An explosion on the Tamysh-Adzyuba span at 1:00 [282100 GMT] on April 29 destroyed about ten meters of the railway track and contact system. Movement on the Georgian railway in the Moscow direction, which was suspended as a result of the clash of two freight trains on the Achegvara-Ochamchira railway span on the night of April 27 and resumed several hours before this incident, was halted once again and did not resume by 11:00 [0700 GMT] on April 29. This has been the third act of sabotage on Georgia's railway over the last three days, a spokesman in the republican Commission for Transport Emergencies told PF [POSTFACTUM].

Shevardnadze on Closure of Security Ministry

LD0505143992 Moscow POSTFACTUM in English 1452 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Tbilisi—The chairman of the State Council of Georgia said the Security Ministry was closed not due to lack of trust in its employees, but to the negative attitude of society to the state security system. Speaking on May 4 to the employees of the Security Ministry disbanded two days earlier, Chairman of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze said they will all be provided with work, many of them at the newly created information-intelligence bureau. Eduard Shevardnadze also said that the May air fare raise was initiated by the Civil Aviation Department of Georgia and the next session of the State Council will see to it that air fare be within reasonable limits (the new price of a ticket to Moscow is R [ruble] 1822, to St. Petersburg—R 2208).

Appeal Made to Moscow on Caucasian 'Instigators'

AU0505172392 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Apr 92 p 4

[Statement by Sandro Kavsadze, Republic of Georgia acting deputy prime minister, chairman of the State Committee for Interethnic Relations and the Defense of Human Rights, issued on 28 April; place not given]

[Text] In accordance with the powers of the republic's State Council and Provisional Government, I consider it necessary to state the following:

On 25 April 1992, a special subunit of Russia's internal troops left the Tskhinvali region. This fact has been interpreted by the Georgian public as a step toward civic peace and accord.

Having assessed the situation in the conflict zone, the Republic of Georgia State Council has continued to implement peaceful measures. Such a position on the part of the authorities has been positively assessed by the population that fully supports a halt to the bloodshed.

Official statements and appeals about this have been disseminated through the mass media.

It is incomprehensible to us that the Moscow TV Information Agency is broadcasting information and commentaries claiming that a peaceful development of events is impossible, that the Tskhinvali Guard has sworn an oath of allegiance, that the Ossetians living in the region are ready for battle, that the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples will be bringing armed forces onto Georgian territory if Georgia does not fulfill the conditions it is dictating, that someone has called someone else an "agent of Moscow," and so forth.

The Georgian State Council and Provisional Government again appeals to the Georgian and Ossetian peoples not to listen to the instigators but to manifest their characteristic wisdom and intelligence and take into account the fact that civilized people and societies clarify relations by means of negotiations.

We appeal to the representatives of the so-called Confederation of Caucasian Peoples that the statements made by them in no way promote the establishment of peace in the region and, if the situation becomes more acute, all moral responsibility will lie with them.

We appeal to the mass media, particularly to Moscow TV, not to permit the shedding of fresh blood as a result of the information and tendentious commentaries transmitted by them.

The Georgian people and its government will do everything in order to settle the problem by peaceful means.

Georgia is also confident of the fact that both the Ossetians living in the Tskhinvali region and those supporting them will show foresight, will not submit to provocations, and, along with us, will find those points of contact that will bring us closer together and avert fresh misfortunes. Sandro Kavsadze, Republic of Georgia acting deputy prime minister, chairman of the State Committee for Interethnic Relations and the Defense of Human Rights. 28 April 1992.

Establishment of Armed Forces Begins

LD0505121492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] In the Republic of Georgia, according to Defense Minister General Sharashenidze, the setting up of its own armed forces has been started.

State Council Considers Meskhetian Issues

AU2704105392 Tbilisi NOVAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 6, Apr 92, p 6

[Unattributed article: "Pogroms Again?"]

[Text] **Danger is again hanging over the Meskhetian refugees living in Krasnodar kray. The kray's Cossacks have issued an ultimatum: If at least 100 families are not deported by 15 May, pogroms will begin here.**

According to certain information, there are, in all, approximately 2,000 families living in the rayon at present. The Georgian State Council has been examining the question of the Meskhetians at its sessions. However, no concrete decision on this question has, as yet, been reached as the difference of opinions is too great. In particular, the following was also stated: The propaganda spread by Gamsakhurdia in his time has resulted in a basically negative attitude even toward the raising of the question concerning the return of the Meskhetians to Georgia. Furthermore, the problem requires a comprehensive approach involving the participation of all interested sides and cannot be resolved in a short period of time.

Prior to the adoption of fundamental decisions, the State Council Commission on the Regulation of the Problem of the Meskhetians has sent a telegram to Russian President Yeltsin. It states, in particular: "As has become known from official sources, the danger of a pogrom conducted by Cossacks is threatening the Meskhs (Georgian Muslims), the so-called Meskhetian Turks, who, in their time, fled from the bloodshed in Fergana [Uzbekistan]. We urgently request that all measures be taken in order to protect the long-suffering, deported, and persecuted people from a new misfortune."

Republic Officially Admitted To IMF

LD0605094692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0820 GMT 6 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Korolyev]

[Text] Washington, May 6 TASS—The Republic of Georgia has become a member of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF said in a press release on Tuesday [5 May] that the official admission of Georgia to the fund was sealed by a signature of the Georgian First Deputy Prime Minister Otar Kvilitaya under the articles of the IMF agreement on Tuesday.

The IMF board of directors defined the initial quota for Georgia of about 126.7 million dollars.

Along with this, the board of directors spoke in favour of granting membership in the International Monetary to Azerbaijan. A resolution approved by the board sets out the terms for this ex-Soviet republic's membership in the international fund, including the size of the entrance fee, ways of pay it and other necessary requirements. The approval of this resolution means that Azerbaijan may become the fund's member as soon as it takes steps in the legal sphere required for carrying out its obligations before the IMF, as well as other conditions provided for in the resolution.

Azerbaijan is the last, fifteenth, republic of the former USSR whose membership in the IMF has been approved.

U.S. Humanitarian Aid Arrives in Tbilisi

OW0405125092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1157 GMT 4 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On May 3, two cargo planes brought baby food, medicines and medical equipment to Tbilisi from the U.S. within the framework of the Provide Hope programme for assisting the former union republics.

Estonia

Prime Minister Questions Privatization Methods

LD0505152892 Tallinn Radio Estonia in English 2030 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Commenting on the current practice of arranging business plan contests in privatizing former state enterprises, Estonian Prime Minister Tiit Vahi said that they have little relevance to reality. The only thing such activities will accomplish is boosting corruption among city officials, he said. In Vahi's opinion privatization must take place only by means of free auctions.

The current practice has proved the opposite. A good example of this is (?Laga) trucking company, which at one point was run by Tiit Vahi himself. The company was recently sold at a price which fell short of the real value of its assets, some 10 times.

The director general of the Department of State Property, Mr. (Raatman), said that the government plans to implement new deep-reaching measures to speed up privatization in Estonia and remove the barriers on the road to private property. About 40 percent of the state property should be privatized by obligation in order to compensate the property seized by the Soviets. The rest should simply be sold.

Deputy Economics Minister Ardo Kamratov said that from the government's standpoint the issue of privatization has relaxed. It must be started immediately, above board, and by means of free auctions.

Germany To Fund Privatization, Banking Trainers

PM0505144592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Leonid Levitskiy report under the "From Our Correspondents and News Agencies" rubric: "German Bridges to Estonia"]

[Text] Tallinn—Germany is going to send privatization and banking specialists and economists to work in Estonia.

Their work period is from one to six years. Estonia will be paying them their usual salaries. The German Ministry of Economic Cooperation is making up the very considerable difference.

Germany will also assist in retraining Estonian cadres. Offices of certain German political foundations will open in Estonia. Germany will allocate resources for the development of private enterprise. This is covered by the agreement signed between the two countries.

Contract Signed on Sales of Russian Gas

OW0405183492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1812 GMT 4 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The director of the Estonian state company "Eesti Gaas" Aarne Saar has said that his enterprise and the Russian firm "Lentransgaz" signed a contract on sale of 1.35 billion cubic meters of gas to Estonia. The "Lentransgaz" firm is part of the Russian concern "Gazprom".

Gas will be sold for $75 per 1000 cubic meters (under an agreed rate $1 is equal to 35 rubles) plus 725 rubles; for transport costs.

Aarne Saar said his company and the "Gazprom" concern have prepared a draft agreement on establishing an international joint-stock company on the basis of the two enterprises. Under the charter, about 70% of the authorized capital will belong to the Estonian firm. The founders plan to eventually invite Danish and Norwegian firms to join the project. The draft proposal was sent to the Russian government.

Aarne Saar said the price of gas in Estonia had soared 65 times for the last six months while its consumption had reduced by 20%.

Economic Agreement Initialed With Finland

OW0505194392 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1911 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Delegations from the Estonian and Finnish ministries of foreign affairs have initialed a bilateral economic co-operation agreement. The ceremony occurred in Tallinn on May 4.

The agreement outlines the principles and terms Estonia has to meet in order to receive Finnish credits and free aid, defines the areas where these resources will be used, and specifies the commitments of the Estonian side.

Prior to signing the agreement, it needs approval by the Estonian parliament.

Trade Agreement Signed With Czechoslovakia

LD0505150492 Tallinn Radio Estonia in English 2030 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Estonia and the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovak [as heard] signed a bilateral agreement on trade between the two countries. The agreement provides a necessary framework for assuring that both parties will promote mutual trade.

The agreement also lists prospective export goods for both countries. Estonia has provided 24 items for the list and Czechs and Slovaks as many as 151. Among the

latter are trams and trolley buses, workshop equipment for making bread, (?beer) or butter, small tractors, and medical equipment.

Estonia's prime export items are peat, chemical, and fishery products.

Supreme Council Appoints New Trade Minister

LD0605115792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0900 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpt] The Supreme Council made its first decision today in Toompea and appointed a trade minister. He is Andres Tamm, born in 1946 in Suure-Jaani. Tamm graduated in 1969 from Tallinn Technical University with honors. He is a mechanical engineer by profession, and until recently, was working as director general of the Eke International Foreign Trade Association. [passage omitted]

Deputy Defense Minister Views Conscription

LD0505115792 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0600 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The PAEVALEHT daily dwells today on the subject of the Estonian Ministry of Defense and the defense forces. Deputy Defense Minister Toomas Puura answers questions from Toomas Sildam. He gives assurances that the military doctrine of the Republic of Estonia is being drafted and that it contains conceptual approaches. A draft for national security already exists and we are discussing it with as many specialists as possible. Estonia can count on 11,500 young men in any one year. According to current legislation, of this number only citizens of the Republic of Estonia can join the defense service, and that is approximately 5,500-6,000 conscripts.

As far as evading military army service is concerned, Toomas Puura notes that the law on defense service does require all 19-year-old citizens who are fit to join the defense forces. At the same time there is no incentive for young people to observe this obligation.

In respect of length of service, Toomas Puura thinks that we should be able to train our young people properly, even within a year, and that army service should not be dragged out pointlessly. Soon an official proposal to shorten conscription from 18 to 12 months will be made to the government.

Parliament on Non-Indigenous Citizenship

OW0205171392 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1525 GMT 2 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian parliamentary commission has held its second session in Tallinn on the status of the republic's non-indigenous population. This session was attended by the delegates from Narva and Sillamae, as well as by the representatives of the Russian Democratic Movement of Estonia (RDME). The discussions focused on the issues relating to the late February resolution on the reinstatement in Estonia of the republic's 1938 citizenship law. The Commission resolved to consider three alternative draft laws on the status of the Russian-speaking population at its next meeting on May 11. The drafts will be prepared by the Migration Department of the Estonian Republic, the National Relations Commission of the Estonian Parliament, and the leaders of the Russian community.

In commenting on the sides' attitudes toward this issue, Yuri Hertzman, member of the RDNE Central Council, said in his interview to BALTFAX correspondent: "At the time when the Estonian politicians are preoccupied with the state construction, the leaders of the Russian community are concerned with social construction".

The leaders of the Russian community also contend that all the persons, who are registered as Estonia's permanent residents at the moment of adoption by the Estonian parliament of the resolution enacting the Law on Citizenship, will be unconditionally entitled to the Estonian citizenship. In their opinion, the language census should not be an obstacle for receiving the Estonian citizenship. "Formation of a multilingual society is not a momentary, but a long-term process," Yuri Hertzman observed.

Latvia

Godmanis, Shelov-Kovedyayev Meet in Riga

LD0505184492 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Ivars Godmanis, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Latvia, met today with First Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, the special representative of the Russian president. Also taking part in the conversation were Minister of State Janis Dinevics; Minister of Foreign Trade Edgars Zausajevs; Janis Peters the Latvian Ambassador to Russia; and Edvins Inkens, counsellor at the Council of Ministers. Also present were Sergey Zotov, head of the Russian delegation in the bilateral talks between Latvia and Russia, and Valeriy Mironov, commander of the Northwestern Military Group.

As the press service of the Council of Ministers reports, Ivars Godmanis told the Russian delegation about the complications that have arisen in the economic relations between the two countries. There also was discussion of the questions connected with the withdrawal of the Russian army from Latvia. Shelov-Kovedyayev emphasized that there is no political or military-strategic obstacle that would disrupt the withdrawal of the Russian army. The only hindrance is the necessity to provide the requisite social conditions in the new location of (?deployment).

Shelov-Kovedyayev also noted that the Russian side is in favor of all bilateral questions between Latvia and Russia being solved in an integrated way, and for the Russian Embassy in Riga to be opened as soon as possible. Russia would like it to be set up on the former premises of the USSR Embassy on [word indistinct]. There are, however, other proposed sites.

There also was discussion of problems connected with the ratification of the bilateral agreement reached between Latvia and Russia in the Russian parliament. Shelov-Kovedyayev said that the foreign minister was interested in the ratification of this treaty, but one must take into account the mood currently prevailing in the Russian Supreme Soviet. Several deputies are seriously objecting to the language law adopted in Latvia and to the forthcoming citizenship law.

Disagreement on Withdrawal Noted

LD0505152492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1507 GMT 5 May 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Budris]

[Text] Riga, May 5 TASS—Russia and Latvia disagreed on Tuesday [5 May] on terms for the withdrawal of former Soviet troops from the Baltic republic during a meeting of Latvian Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans and Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister Fyodor Shelov-Kovedyayev.

Jurkans accused Russia of delaying the decision on the final pullout of troops which had been taken under the Russian jurisdiction. The presence of alien troops destabilises the situation in the republic and frightens foreign investors. It might also influence parliamentary elections scheduled for 1993, according to Jurkans.

Shelov-Kovedyayev said social problems which officers will face in Russia are the main obstacle and suggested to jointly solve them.

Another obstacle is posed by a number of "strategic military objects" in Latvia which cannot be transferred to another place, according to military experts accompanying Shelov-Kovedyayev. The Latvian leadership demands that the objects be eliminated, however 10-15 years and multi-billion investments are necessary to create analogous objects in Russia, experts said.

'Lack' of 'Understanding' Cited

OW0505193992 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1910 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to reports coming in from Riga, today's (May 5) meeting between Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister Fyodor Shelov-Kovedyayev and Latvian Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis and Foreign Ninister Janis Jurkans was marked by lack of mutual understanding. This manifested itself in the discussion of both Latvian-Russian relations and the withdrawal of the troops of the former USSR from the Baltic states.

Thus, Janis Jurkans was insisting that the Russian side set a deadline for the withdrawal of the troops as soon as possible. He pointed out the fact that no "serious" negotiations were being held on the issue, saying that the lack of political stability affected the Latvian economy for it put off potential foreign investors.

Meanwhile military experts accompanying the Russian delegation told our correspondent that there were several large military installations on Latvian territory which could not be dismantled and taken away for technical reasons. The construction of such installations in Russia would cost tens of billions of rubles, they claimed, and might take 10-15 years, and their destruction would mean making an enormous breach in Russia's strategic defenses.

During the discussion of economic problems, the Latvian side accused Russia of "virtually blockading" the Latvian economy.

This evening the Russian delegation is expected in Tallinn.

According to information provided by the Estonian Foreign Ministry, Shelov-Kovedyayev will see parliament chairman Arnold Ruutel tomorrow and will give him a letter from Russian President Boris Yeltsin. He will also meet Prime Minister Tiit Vahi and members of the Russian-speaking community.

Estonian Foreign ministry spokesman Juri Tihase said the main attention at the meetings will be paid to the withdrawal from Estonia of the troops of the former USSR coming within Russian jurisdiction.

Shelov-Kovedyayev is accompanied by the leader of the Russian delegation at the current Russian-Estonian negotiations, Vasily Svirin, the commander of the CIS conventional forces, Colonel-General Vladimir Semyonov, and the commander of the North-Western Armed forces Group, Colonel-General Valery Mironov.

Shelov-Kovedyayev began his tour of the Baltic states yesterday, when he came to Vilnius to exchange with Lithuanian parliament chairman Vytautas Landsbergis instruments certifying the ratification of the treaty between the two states signed in 1991.

News Conference Held

OW0505194192 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1911 GMT 5 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At a press conference in Riga, Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev said Russia was going to defend the rights of Russian-speaking citizens of Latvia as human and

national minority rights whose protection is regulated by relevant international conventions.

He also informed those present that an agreement had been reached on the transfer of border troops stationed in Latvia to the "actual border of Russia."

Speaking about major strategic military installations which could not be removed from Latvian territory for purely technical reasons, Shelov-Kovedyayev said the issue would nevertheless be discussed "in a calm atmosphere at a good professional level."

He said, quoting the commander of the North-Western Armed Forces Group, Colonel-General Valery Mironov, that the military were prepared to transfer three installations to Latvia immediately.

UN Informed of Libyan Submarines in Riga

LD0505132692 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0800 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Today Libya informed the United Nations that its submarines are located in Riga harbor and that these submarines were repaired at the former USSR naval base at Bolderaja. Last week reports were circulating that Russia was preparing to sell these submarines. Russia had already announced that the repair work had now stopped and that no one was preparing to give these submarines back to Libya, in accordance with the sanctions decreed by the United Nations Organization. Latvia had already informed the international community that, regardless of the United Nations resolutions against Iraq, this naval base had in 1990 and 1991 been training Iraqi naval personnel in 1990 and 1991.

Gorbunovs Addresses Parliament on Anniversary

LD0505151392 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0800 GMT 5 May 92

[Excerpt] On Monday [4 May], the second anniversary of the adoption of the declaration of Latvia's independence, more widely known, of course, as the 4 May declaration, was commemorated. It was acknowledged relatively quietly and modestly, as seemed proper under circumstances where there is still a long way to go to real independence. However there is no reason to belittle what has been achieved. Seen from the distance of time nevertheless the historical significance of this declaration in every sense is visible. The speech made by Anatolijs Gorbunovs, the chairman of the Supreme Council, was relayed on Monday by Latvian Radio and Television. In it, Anatolijs Gorbunovs emphasized the special significance of the 4 May declaration, under the circumstances of then and now, and among other things he said:

[Begin Gorbunovs recording] We adopted all these laws ourselves, and [words indistinct]. Obviously we were not expecting the difficulties (?in the course of the days). We had enough strength to regain Latvia's independence, or enough strength to make Latvia into an truly independent and democratic state. I myself would put it simply: there are some things which help a large proportion of the world's people to provide subsistence and a normal life. And I would like to say the following: they would be the democratic structure and functioning of a country's society. For it to be thus, we must all maintain the validity of the parliamentary idea [words indistinct] and must continually improve the mechanisms of this democratic system. [end recording]

[Announcer] Just a fragment of the speech given by Anatolijs Gorbunovs on 4 May. In it he also said the most important economic tasks, necessary for [word indistinct] considerably accelerated. [passage omitted]

Gorbunovs Could Adapt 'With Difficulty'

LD0505112392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1051 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Moscow May 5 ITAR-TASS—President of the Latvian Parliament Anatolijs Gorbunovs said he should be a centrist if he wishes to retain his post. A profile of this politician was presented on the First TV Channel. It was stressed in the programme that as head of the Latvian parliament Gorbunovs had participated in all the stages of the struggle for the restoration of Latvia's independence.

Regarding Latvian-Russian relations, Gorbunovs noted that the two countries have their specific interests. He said that Boris Yeltsin would be upholding Russian interests, while he will be upholding Latvian interests, and there will be room not only for "friendly decisions" in this debate.

Gorbunovs said zero variant of resolving the problem of Latvian citizenship, in accordance with which citizenship should be granted to all people living in Latvia by the time when independence is restored, lead to an impasse. This solution will not be accepted even by newcomers who have lived in Latvia for some time. There should be room for changing one's views. There is nothing bad in this. If one wants to keep abreast of events, views should be changing.

The head of the Latvian parliament is calm about the possibility of his resignation. He said it is not one's post, but one's achievements in work that matter. He said he would be able to adapt to other areas, albeit with difficulty.

Lithuania

Landsbergis, Russian Envoy Hold News Conference

LD0405202192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1335 GMT 4 May 92

[News conference at Supreme Council building in Vilnius by Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman of the Supreme

Council of the Republic of Lithuania, and Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, Russian deputy foreign minister and special representative of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, after signing documents on the ratification of interstate relations between Russia and Lithuania—live]

[Excerpts] [Landsbergis] I would like to express my pleasure that this solidarity manifests itself both by our treaty which was signed on 29 July last year in Moscow and by the actions taken later during the August putsch as well as by the fact of the ratification of this treaty. [Words indistinct] I would like to express my gratitude to Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev for his contribution to this political act of great significance. I would also like to express my congratulations to him, to all the politicians who accompany him, and to the entire democratic Russia.

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] Ladies and gentlemen, I must say that I am very pleased that recently we were all witnesses to the last act which is of great importance in our work, witnesses to the fact that the treaty which was perfected and signed in the summer of last year has now come into full force which in its turn has opened possibilities for even more intensive development of our bilateral relations, the Russian-Lithuanian and Lithuanian-Russian relations, in the positive trend which has characterized them right from the beginning, independently of the Russian policies. It opens the possibilities for the development of our cooperation in the widest political, economic, and cultural spheres, since as you know the treaty itself envisages signing 24 agreements [words indistinct] I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Landsbergis for the high appraisal he gave to our joint work. I would like to inform you that currently several documents are on the negotiation table of our delegation which, in fact, will be conducive to the development of our relations, as I have already mentioned, in a positive trend. These are the draft on the consular convention, draft treaty on legal aid, on matters of civil and criminal cases as well as on family relations. These were initialed more than a month ago and we have agreed that these will be signed in the near future. As far as I know, the Lithuanian side is prepared to receive the Russian delegation here. The question of settling the issue of citizenship is of great importance because the fundamental statements on citizenship in the treaty must be given a legal settlement. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified Correspondent] [Words indistinct]

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] The question of the opening of the Embassy is not all that simple. Finding a building is not enough, it has to be equipped in a certain for it to be suitable for the diplomatic work that will have to be carried out in this building. I must say that Mr. Isakov, head of the Russian delegation for the negotiations with the Republic of Lithuania, is staying here for one more day to examine the set of proposals which the Lithuanian side has on this issue. I hope that the Russian Embassy will be in operation in the coming months. [passage omitted]

[INTERFAX Correspondent, in Russian] INTERFAX Agency: A question to Mr. Landsbergis. A decision has been made on holding a referendum in the country on the issue of the presence of the armed forces of the former Soviet Union which at present are under the jurisdiction of Russia. I would like you to answer the following: How much does it correspond to the established world practice when issues of bilateral relations are being solved by way of a referendum. This is the first question, and the second one is: According to you, how much of a practical value will the results of the referendum be?

[Landsbergis] First I would like to make it more accurate: First the referendum will be held not on the presence of the armed forces in Lithuania but on its not being present in Lithuania.

I cannot answer the question whether anywhere in the world referendums of this kind were held often. Much of what we have done was not according to the already existing pattern. The practical significance of this referendum I think will be felt when the actual withdrawal of the troops starts and we hope that it will start soon, maybe even before the referendum.

[Unidentified Correspondent] [Words indistinct]

[Shelov-Kovedyayev] First of all I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Landsbergis for a frank exchange of opinions which according to my opinion was very productive. [words indistinct] We did not discuss a specific date, and I informed Mr. Landsbergis that the date which was given to him during the telephone conversation with Mr. Yeltsin when they talked about 1997 or [words indistinct] and I informed him that we are prepared to withdraw the troops which are under the jurisdiction of Russia as soon as realistic conditions for [passage indistinct]

More on News Conference

LD0405191792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1745 GMT 4 May 92

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Vilnius, 4 May—A number of issues remain unresolved in relations between Lithuania and Russia. This refers, in particular, to the problems of withdrawing the troops of the former USSR from Lithuanian territory. This was stated at a news conference today by Vytautas Landsbergis, head of the Lithuanian Parliament, at the end of the official ceremony of exchanging the ratification papers of the Treaty on Inter-State Relations between Russian and Lithuania. According to Landsbergis, the talks on troop withdrawal, which have been set for 14 June, could produce tangible results.

Speaking at the news conference Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, official representative of the Russian president and first deputy minister of foreign affairs, noted that during his meetings with the Lithuanian leadership

today there was no discussion of a specific timescale for troop withdrawal. At the same time, according to Shelov-Kovedyayev, the 1997-1999 date which was mentioned in a telephone conversation between Boris Yeltsin and Vitautas Landsbergis "might be amended." The Russian representative also reported that the sides had stressed the need to "intensify the process of bilateral talks." The Russian side is prepared to receive a Lithuanian delegation on 15-16 May, said Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev.

A meeting between Valeriy Mironov, commander of the Northwestern Group of CIS Troops, and Audrius Butkievicius, minister of national defense, took place within the framework of the visit by the delegation of the Russian president's representative. The deputy Russian minister of foreign affairs leaves for Riga this evening.

Vagnorius Receives Russian Presidential Envoy

LD0405215792 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, a special representative of Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Russian first deputy foreign minister, was received by Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius today on his arrival in Lithuania.

Viktor Isakov, head of the Russian state delegation for the negotiations with Lithuania; Colonel-General Vladimir Semenov, Commander of the General Purpose Forces of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces; Colonel General Valeriy Mironov, Commander of the North West Group of the Armed Forces; and other officials were present at the reception. Lithuanian Economy Minister Albertas Simenas, Trade and Material Resources Minister Vilius Zidonis, and Egidijus Bickauskas, Lithuanian charge d'affaires ad interim in Moscow, were also present.

Both parties agreed that the restrictions placed on trade should be quickly removed, and that the functioning of customs houses should be regulated. It was noted that when the treaty between Lithuania and Russia on the principles of interstate relations is ratified, other issues of bilateral cooperation can be resolved more vigorously.

The prime minister noted that in other to achieve good neighborly relations and mutual trust, it is especially important that an agreement be reached on the speedier withdrawal from Lithuania of the armed forces of the former Soviet Union which have been transferred into Russian jurisdiction and [words indistinct].

The Russian president's representative said that the leadership of his country recognizes the need to withdraw these troops. He said that by temporarily deploying these troops in Lithuania, (?Russia) is not seeking to achieve any [word indistinct] aims. However, time is needed to settle the issues of property relations and solve the servicemen's social problems.

Gediminas Vagnorius assured the representative of the Russian president that Lithuania is prepared to help solve these problems, and that Lithuania poses no threat to the security of Russia. [sentence indistinct]

Meets With Deputy Foreign Minister

LD0405220692 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] The delegation headed by Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev, Russian first deputy foreign minister, met with Deputy Foreign Minister Gediminas Serksnys at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today.

The two ministers discussed the problems concerning the withdrawal from Lithuania of the armed forces which are under the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation, the problem of the diplomatic buildings in Paris and Rome which until 1940 were the property of the Republic of Lithuania, the setting up of a Russian Embassy in Lithuania, and the application of the law on the responsibility for the genocide of the Lithuanian people.

Vagnorius Suggests Early Parliamentary Election

OW0405174792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1624 GMT 4 May 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking at a press conference in Vilnius, Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius insisted on an early parliamentary election, which, he suggested, should be held on September 5. He said this was necessary because the government had come up against a "political wall which could not be breached by reforms alone." He saw a new election as the only possible way to get out of the quagmire.

Vagnorius promised to propose a whole range of reforms to the Parliament this week, including reforms to reorganize the government.

He said the government was having problems with the law- enforcement bodies, "which are still unable to avert infringements of law as the reforms are being carried out," and also complained about the shortage of credit resources serving to aggravate the economic situation.

Vagnorius emphasized that he took his decisions on his own, and if any member of his government disagreed with any of them, he had better resign.

Vaisvila Discusses Government Situation

LD0105221392 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1200 GMT 28 Apr 92

[Excerpts] Last night Lithuanian Vice Prime Minister Zigmas Vaisvila made a statement on Lithuanian television on the government's situation. He says in the statement that it is no longer possible and even dangerous to keep silent because the lack of information

among people is being abused. In the opinion of the vice prime minister, the government crisis started last summer and the cause of the crisis is not relations with parliament, but the policy and behavior of the prime minister himself. He completely disregards experts, important decisions are taken without the knowledge of the ministers and the apparatus experts. Everything is virtually being decided by the prime minister, Vice Prime Minister Pakalniskis, and Kestutis Cilinkas, the government secretary. Cilinskas, who is the only one to submit documents for the signature. Zigmas Vaisvila regards as especially dangerous the fact that the government disregards the law. The government decree on the so-called "purge of the state apparatus" has exhausted patience. [passage omitted]

Vaisvila also said that Cilinkas has even greater influence than the ministers. He commented on the situation in the national security service. Vaisvila also said that he told the viewers only a small part of facts known to him. In reality the matters are much more complex.

Israeli Defense Minister Meets Leading Officials

LD0105211892 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Folowing an invitation by Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, his wife Muriel, and his daughters Aliza and Ruth, arrived in Vilnius today. The minister is accompanied by the Israeli General Virni [name indistinct], Israeli Counselor in Moscow Israel Meiami, and other officials.

The visitors were met at Vilnius Airport by Minister Audrius Butkevicius, Supreme Council deputy, Emanuelis Zingeris, chairman of the Lithuanian-Jewish Association, [word indistinct] and representatives of the Defense Ministry and the Jewish community.

Several meetings were held between the Israeli minister and Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius, Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius, Deputy Foreign Minister Gediminas Serksnys, and [word indistinct].

A dinner hosted in honor of the visitor was attended by Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis.

Moshe Arens and members of his party placed a wreath at the memorial to the victims of Jewish genocide in Paneriai.

There are plans to visit on Saturday 2 May Arens' birthplace of Kaunas, which he left 65 years ago at the age of 18 months. The visitors from Israel will visit the Ninth Fort, where Arens' relatives were also among those who perished. They will also visit the little town of Balbieriskis, where his ancestors came from.

Meetings with the Jewish community are planned in Kaunas and Vilnius.

At a news conference held today, Moshe Arens noted that a common mission links him with the Lithuanian defense minister and the defense ministers of other countries to defend one's own country from an external enemy. Audrius Butkevicius stated that during a conversation with the visitor, important questions regarding the states' defense systems were discussed.